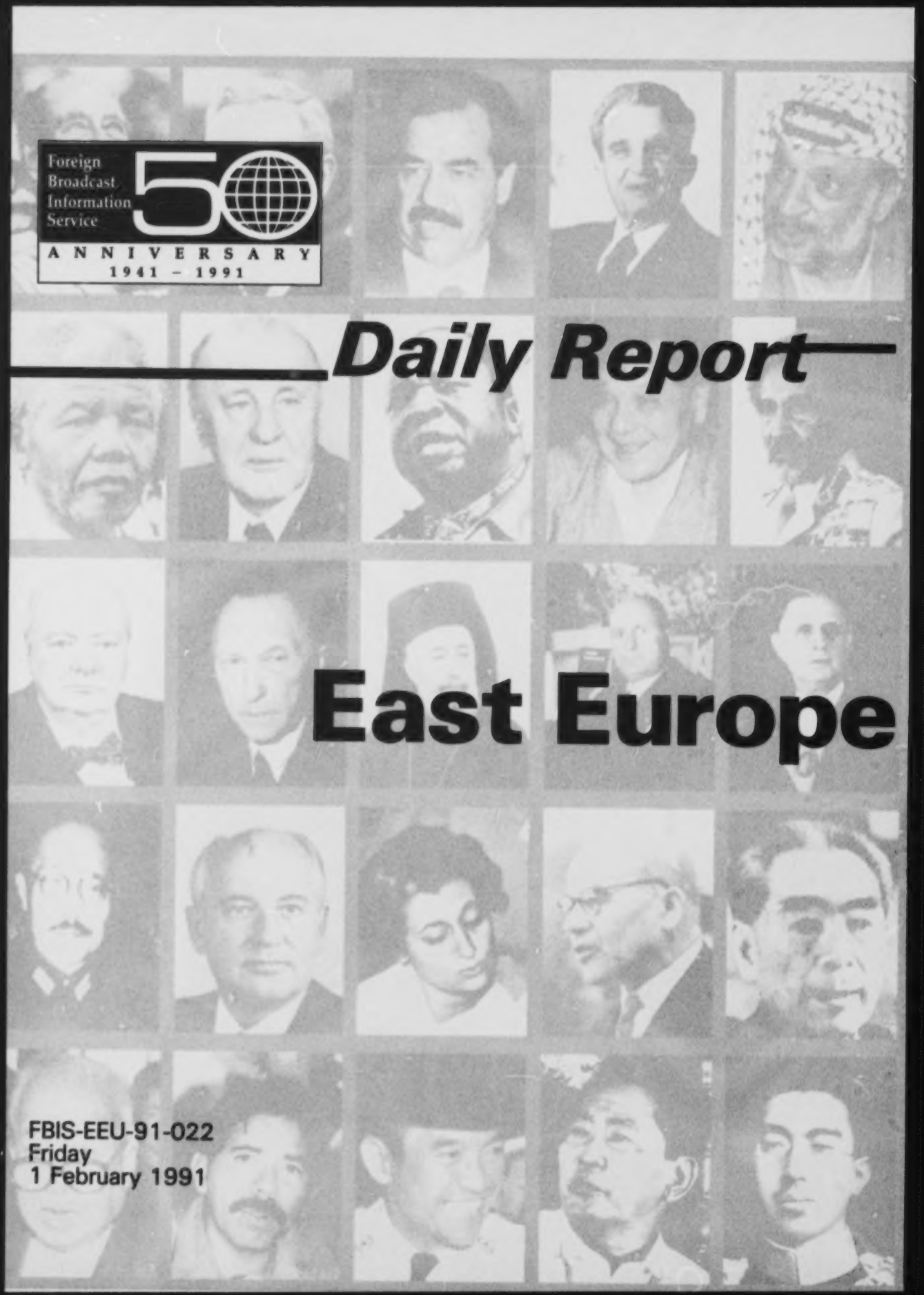

Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-91-022
Friday
1 February 1991

Daily Report
East Europe

FBIS-EEU-91-022

CONTENTS

1 February 1991

NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

ALBANIA

Council of Ministers Announces Internal Changes *[Tirana Radio]* 1
PDSh's Pashko Interviewed on European Tour *[Tirana International]* 1
CSCE Documents Published, Placed on Sale *[Tirana Radio]* 2
PDSh, PRSh Prepare For Upcoming Elections *[Tirana International]* 2
Republican Party Activities Reported *[Skopje FLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT 27 Jan]* 2
* Youth Union Decision on Pluralism, Renewal *[ZERI I RINISE 19 Dec]* 2
Food Shortage, 'Market Hunger' Viewed *[BASHKIMI 23 Jan]* 3
Cooperativists Express Insecurity About Future *[BASHKIMI 20 Jan]* 4
Nano, Kapllani Leave for World Economic Forum *[Tirana Radio]* 5
Experiences of Refugees in Greece Described *[BASHKIMI 20 Jan]* 6

BULGARIA

Zhelev Says Warsaw Pact 'Outlived Its Time' *[CTK]* 7
Zhelev Holds Talks at Council of Europe *[BTA]* 7
Vulkov Presents Council of Europe Application *[BTA]* 7
Foreign Affairs Minister at Migration Conference *[BTA]* 8
Delegation Returns From Lithuanian; Views Scene *[BTA]* 8
Finance Minister Announces Agreement With IMF *[BTA]* 9
Popov Meets IMF Official *[BTA]* 9
National Assembly Endorses Government's Program *[BTA]* 9
Government Ready With 1991 Draft Budget *[Sofia Radio]* 10
Government To Privatize Newsprint Market *[Sofia Radio]* 10
City Council Announces New Milk, Bread Prices *[Sofia Radio]* 10
Increase in Black Market Activity, Other Crimes *[BTA]* 11
Social Democrats To Hold Congress 22-24 Mar *[BTA]* 11

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Cabinet Approves Antichemical Unit Deployment *[CTK]* 12
Assembly Statement Praises Israeli Restraint *[CTK]* 12
Kuwaiti Ambassador on Role of Resistance Movement *[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE 23 Jan]* 12
Assembly Considers Council of Europe Membership *[Prague Radio]* 12
Foreign Ministry Seeks Information on Baltics *[CTK]* 13
Dubrovsky Addresses Assembly on Military Doctrine *[Prague Radio]* 13
Views Army's Duty *[CTK]* 13
Dobrovsky Outlines Slovak Security Situation *[VEREJNOST 28 Jan]* 14
Bohunice Nuclear Power Plant Near 'Risk Point' *CTK]* 15
Parties Believe StB Collaboration No Crime *[CTK]* 15
VPN Leader on Screening, Relations With OF *[CTK]* 15
Spokesman Comments on Possibility of Censure Vote *[CTK]* 16
1,600 Joint Ventures Authorized in Country *[HOSPODARSKE NOVINY 29 Jan]* 16
Text of 'General Agreement' on Employment *[NARODNA OBRODA 29 Jan]* 16
Parties Oppose Civic Forum Grip on Media *[Prague Radio]* 19
Moravians Demonstrate Against Discrimination *[SVOBODNE SLOVO 28 Jan]* 19
'Equal Status' Demanded *[NARODNA OBRODA 28 Jan]* 19
Pithart Comments on Demands *[SVOBODNE SLOVO 28 Jan]* 20
Slovak, Federal Legislatures' Relations Viewed *[Fuele in NARODNA OBRODA 28 Jan]* 20
Weiss on Slovak Political Scene, Meciar's Role *[MLADA FRONTA DNES 25 Jan]* 21
Meciar on Bilingual Education in Ethnic Regions *[NARODNA OBRODA 28 Jan]* 21
Slovak National Democrat on Movement's Policy *[SMENA 28 Jan]* 22

HUNGARY

Defense Ministry on Croatian Weapons Affair *[MTI]* 23
Romania's Attempts at 'Guest Status' Supported *[Budapest TV]* 23
Joint Agreement on Education Signed With Romania *[MTI]* 23
Soviet Troop Withdrawal Proceeds on Schedule *[MTI]* 23
Resolutions on Soviet Withdrawal, Budget Delayed *[Budapest Radio]* 24
Goncz Meets With U.S. Secretary of State Baker *[MTI]* 24
Bank Official Reports Further EC Grants *[MTI]* 24
MSZMP Chairman Thurmer Holds News Briefing 24
Opposes NATO, Calls For Gulf Peace *[Budapest TV]* 24
Criticizes Land Repossessions *[Budapest Radio]* 25
Minority Roundtable Organization Formed *[MTI]* 25
Environment Minister Queried on Radioactive Waste *[NEPSZABADSAG 26 Jan]* 25
Economic Relations Official Views Future Prospects *[MTI]* 26
Electricity, Bottled Gas Prices To Rise 1 Feb *[Budapest Radio]* 26
Milk Producers Protest Accumulated Surplus *[MTI]* 26
Finance Minister Views 1990 Budget, Privatization *[MTI]* 27

POLAND

Aid Convoy for USSR Turned Back to Germany *[Warsaw TV]* 28
Walesa Stresses Courts' Independence *[PAP]* 28
Walesa Holds Meeting With Diplomatic Corps *[PAP]* 28
Walesa 'Will Not Allow' Anti-Semitism *[PAP]* 28
Head of Presidential Advisory Committee Appointed *[PAP]* 29
Bielecki Appoints Bylinski To Head Rural Council *[Warsaw Radio]* 29
Sejm Demands Revocation of TV PAP Ruling *[PAP]* 29
ROAD, Democratic Union Unity Said Necessary *[SZTANDAR MLODYCH 28 Jan]* 29
Democratic Union Comments *[PAP]* 30
Center Alliance Sets Up Liberal-Democratic Forum *[PAP]* 30
Attends Conference *[PAP]* 30
Jaruzelski Meets Democratic Left Leaders *[PAP]* 30
OPZZ To Protest Excess Wage Tax *[PAP]* 30
Plans for Radio, TV Stations Outlined *[PAP]* 31

ROMANIA

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Holds News Conference 32
Opposes UN Security Council Meeting *[ROMPRES]* 32
Views Human Rights Observance *[ROMPRES]* 32
Iliescu Continues Official Visit to Italy 32
Statements Before Departure *[ROMPRES]* 32
Meets De Michelis in Venice *[ROMPRES]* 33
* National Liberal Party Organ on Gulf War *[VIITORUL 25 Jan]* 33
Government Meeting Adopts 'Crisis Program' *[ROMPRES]* 34
Concern Expressed Over Youth Wanting To Emigrate *[DREPTATEA 23 Jan]* 34
* Law on Ministry of National Defense *[VIITORUL 19 Jan]* 34

YUGOSLAVIA

Presidency Meeting Continues on Federal Situation *[Ljubljana Radio]* 37
Discussion on Political Future Unlikely *[TANJUG]* 37
Daily Views Talks Between Republics *[BORBA 26-27 Jan]* 38
Tudjman, SFRY's Mesic View Controversies *[TANJUG]* 39
Leave Presidency Session *[Belgrade Radio]* 41
Croatian Delegation Quits Presidency Meeting *[Zagreb Radio]* 41
Manolic: No Arrest, Interrogations for Spegelj *[TANJUG]* 41
Croatia's Spegelj, Boljkovac Visit Slovenia *[TANJUG]* 41
Customs Office Investigated for Arms Smuggling *[TANJUG]* 42
Croat Assembly Position Possible Intervention *[VJESNIK 26 Jan]* 42

Croatian Factory Strike Includes 3,000 Workers *[TANJUG]* 43
Serbia's Milosevic Views State Presidency Talks *[TANJUG]* 43
Serbia Favors Integrated Federal Country *[TANJUG]* 43
Serbian Deputies Boycott Croatian Assembly *[TANJUG]* 44
Krajina Trade Union Confederation Established *[TANJUG]* 44
Slovenia's Kucan on State Presidency Session *[TANJUG]* 44
Slovene Council Urges Sovereignty Threat Probe *[TANJUG]* 44
Bosnian President Cited on Federation Issue *[TANJUG]* 45
Bosnia-Hercegovina SDS Holds News Conference *[TANJUG]* 45

Council of Ministers Announces Internal Changes

AU3101173091 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1700 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Decree on some changes in the composition of the Council of Ministers; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] On the basis of Article 78 of the Constitution and on the proposal of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania decrees:

1. Fatos Nano is relieved of the post of general secretary of the Council of Minister and is appointed deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.
2. Shkelqim Cani is appointed deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.
3. Ahmet Kamberi is relieved of the post of health minister.
4. Sabit Broka is appointed health minister.
5. Alfred Uci is relieved of the post of chairman of the Committee for Culture and the Arts, and is pensioned.
6. Mojkom Zeqo is appointed chairman of the Committee for Culture and the Arts.
7. Aleks Luarasi is appointed general secretary of the Council of Ministers.

This decree goes into effect immediately.

Tirana, 31 January 1991. Decree No. 7,462. For the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania,
[signed] Ramiz Alia, president; Sihat Tozaj, secretary.

Biographical Data:

Fatos Nano, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, was born in Tirana in 1952. He has completed college studies in political economy. He has the title of veteran scientific coworker, and has been general secretary of the Council of Ministers.

Shkelqim Cani, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, was born in Tirana in 1956. He has completed college studies in accountancy, and has been general director of the Bank for Foreign Relations.

Health Minister Sabit Broka was born in (?Brapaj) in Vlore District in 1942. He is a cardiologist by profession, and holds the title of senior lecturer. He has held the position of dean of the Medical Faculty.

Mojkom Zeqo, chairman of the Committee for Culture and the Arts, was born in Durres in 1941. He has studied languages and literature, and is a specialist in the history (?of art). He has been secretary of the Albanian Workers Party in Durres District.

Aleks Luarasi, secretary general of the Council of Ministers, was born in Erseke in 1941. He is a lawyer with the title of senior lecturer. He has been deputy dean of the Faculty of Political and Legal Sciences.

PDSh's Pashko Interviewed on European Tour

AU3101164991 Tirana International Service in German 1330 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Interview with Gramoz Pashko, member of the Initiating Commission of the Democratic Party (PDSh), by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded, in Albanian with superimposed translation into German]

[Text] [Pashko] In November, I received an invitation from the International Helsinki Human Rights Federation. I accepted the invitation to make broader and closer contacts with various political circles. The Human Rights Federation made the first initiative, followed by various political circles in Vienna. I met leaders of all political parties and Austrian political personalities. I met Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock and State Secretary Peter Jankowitsch. I also attended a special session of the European Democratic Union, to which personalities from all of Europe were invited, including Alois Mock, the secretary of this Union, and Mr. Jacques Chirac. In all, about 20 high-level political personalities were represented. A special session was held about the problems of democratization in Albania, at which I described the situation. I then answered questions put to me. General support for this process in Albania was expressed.

I then received an invitation from the Hungarian National Assembly. There, I met all the leaders of the Hungarian Democratic Party. I was also received by the Hungarian foreign minister and the president of the Hungarian legislature. That was broadly the program of my visit.

[Reporter] What were the political results of this visit?

[Pashko] Politically, a very important result was achieved. The political public I got to know and with which I established contact expressed its sympathy and readiness to help the democratic movement in Albania in different ways and to support it as a political force able to bring Albania closer to Europe. Among other things, moral assistance was mentioned, such as the sending of foreign observers to take part in our elections, because our country lacks experience in democratic elections. I cannot say whether this will be allowed, or how many such observers will be permitted. This is a problem that can be solved with determination and understanding. If all democratic forces unite, we can carry through the election campaign successfully. These people must come, to be aware what is happening in Albania, and not dependent in any way on the speculations of the international press and certain thoughtless reactions among our own media.

[Reporter] We have learned that during your visit you also met Ibrahim Rugova, chairman of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance, and the writer Ismail Kadare. Tell us something about this.

[Pashko] The Kosovo Democratic Alliance had expressed the wish to establish contact. Of course, I could not refuse this, and I met Ibrahim Rugova in Zurich. It was a moving and valuable meeting. The aim of the meeting was not to make political decisions, because neither side is in the position to be able to make them. Neither of us has any power. The aim was to build and create an important and vital bridge to our Kosovar brothers. This is part of our party's program, involving the idea of national unity, which may be achieved in the European context and within the framework of the CSCE.

I then flew on to Paris, where I met Ismail Kadare. This is more a matter of my long-standing friendship with him. I wanted to see him and tell him about the events in Albania and the democratic processes in our country. He was very interested in hearing everything. He gave his full support to this process of democratization in our country, and expressed the great hope that all Albania's intellectuals will set aside the old hate and envy and fully support this process.

CSCE Documents Published, Placed on Sale

AU3101173891 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1700 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Two basic documents of the CSCE, the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter for a New Europe, have recently been published and placed on sale. These two documents are published by the 8 November Publishing House in association with the Institute for the Study of International Relations.

PDSh, PRSh Prepare For Upcoming Elections

AU2901150591 Tirana International Service in German 1330 GMT 29 Jan 91

[Text] During the preparatory phase of the political parties and other organizations for the People's Assembly elections, our correspondent met Arben Imami, a founding member of the Initiating Commission of the Democratic Party of Albania [PDSh]. Arben Imami informed him that this party has formed its central electoral commission with well-known members and supporters of the PDSh and famous intellectuals from all walks of life. Similar electoral commissions will also be formed in different districts of the country. This work has already begun in some districts. The PDSh has also proposed two of its members for the Central Electoral Commission of the People's Assembly. Candidates will be elected democratically by the party membership. The candidates will come from all strata of the population, and will be elected by the sections of the PDSh. Despite difficulties caused by the lack of material resources, lists of candidates in some districts are already being prepared. The candidates will be presented to electors by the sections themselves, and the PDSh's program will also be publicized at these meetings. Arben Imami told our correspondent that the PDSh demands a revision and improvement of the Electoral Law, and is, in principle, ready to cooperate with all the country's democratic forces.

Our correspondents also met Sabri Godo, chairman of the Initiating Commission of the Republican Party [PRSh]. This party has also formed its central electoral commission. It is now working on the creation of such commissions in the country's districts. The PRSh will soon present its candidates in these districts. This party will be represented by one member in the Central Electoral Commission of the People's Assembly.

Republican Party Activities Reported

AU3101135691 Skopje FLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT in Albanian 27 Jan 91 p 6

[Mahi Nesimi report: "Market To Be Supplied By 15 February"]

[Excerpt] Tirana, 26 Jan—[Passage omitted] We also visited today the premises of the Republican Party [PRSh], housed in a maternity home, and met the well-known Albanian writer Sabri Godo who is also chairman of the Initiating Commission of this recently registered party. Sabri Godo told us that the Initiating Commission also includes the writer Petro Marko and the former journalist and deputy editor of ZERI I POPULLIT, Vangjush Gambeta, who we learned, was once taken to task by the Albanian Workers Party and ended up in a way that he should not have. Journalists say that he was the best journalist of his day and everybody speaks of him with great respect. It must be emphasized that the PRSh will announce its program within two days and will at the same time start its election campaign. It is expected that the party also will start publishing its newspaper, entitled REPUBLIKA [The Republic], toward the middle of February.

We also learned today that a telegram reached the editorial board of the newspaper BASHKIMI, stating that the Initiating Commission of the Agrarian Party [Partia Agrare] has been formed in Vlore. This party will soon apply for registration and will be the first party based outside Tirana. The formation of other parties besides the Democratic Party will inevitably lead to a reduction of political tension and to a more democratic atmosphere for the discussion of social problems.

* Youth Union Decision on Pluralism, Renewal

91P20086A Tirana ZERI I RINISE in Albanian 19 Dec 90 p

[Decision of the National Conference of the Union of Working Youth of Albania (BRPSh); place and date not given]

[Text] The National Conferewnce of the Union of Working Youth of Albania [BRPSh], held in Tirana on 18 December 1990, after analyzing tne new political developments in the country, decided:

1. To hail and unanimously support the decision of the 13th Plenum of the Party Central Committee to make way for political pluralism as an historic phase for the further develiopment of democratization in our country.

2. To unanimously condemn the vandalistic, bandit-like, and terrorist activities of the forces of darkness, undertaken recently in some districts in the country and to demand that they be punished immediately, in accordance with the laws of the state.

3. To strengthen the unity of the younger generation and to exert a strong influence on the unity of all the people with the aim of guaranteeing, at any cost, the political stability of the country, as a key factor for ensuring the values achieved up to now and the further progress of the homeland.

4. To strongly and decisively support Comrade Ramiz Alia who is the inspiration and the absolute leader of the battle for the democratization of the country with the firm conviction that our ancient and cultured people will win this battle too by democratic means and methods.

5. The Union of Working Youth of Albania has emerged from these historic moments as an independent social organization. As such, the BRPSh is not a lever or a transmission belt of any political force which exists and which might be created in the framework of political pluralism. At the same time,the BRPSh ,as an independent social organization , will support progressive political forces which are fighting for the freedom, independence, and sovereignty of the country, for the extension of democracy and for the improvement of the economic situation of the Albanian people, for the satisfaction of the needs, desires and aspirations of the younger generation.

6. The BRPSh is and will remain a mature social organization which includes within it younger generations of all categories, regardless of political affiliation, conviction or religious belief. In this way, the BRPSh will serve as a key factor and one of the most powerful factors in the achievement of the high aim of bringing together and uniting all the Albanian youth on the road to democracy.

7. The BRPSh will be involved in responding to the specific interests of the youth in education, culture, science, sports, and recreation and in resolving the social problems of the youth. For this purpose, it works with state organs and social organizations in accordance with the law.

8. The BRPSh will consolidate and further expand relations with progressive and democratic youth organizations in the Balkans, Europe, and the world. The BRPSh will try, along with these groups, to strengthen international cooperation and security and bring the younger generations of the entire world closer to the most progressive ideals of humanity.

9. With the aim of responding to this new position, dictated by the new political situations, the BRPSh will rebuild its organizational structure, from the grassroots to the central structure, and will renew its leading organs.

10. In accordance with the above decisions, a commission will be set up to review the statute of the BRPSh.

11. The lOth Congress of the Union of Working Youth of Albania will be held during 1991.

Tirana, 18 December 1990

Food Shortage, 'Market Hunger' Viewed

AU3102221891 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 23 Jan 91 p 2

[Pellumb Bataj article: "After the Answer: 'There Is No Food'"]

[Text] Oil? None left.
Flour? None left.
Sugar? None left.
Onions? None left.

Our article could very well begin with such questions and answers. After listing all the things that shops do and do not have, including the items we mentioned and the other articles absent from the stores, it would be good to ask, "What is left?"

The people ask, and have every right not only to ask but to demand accountability. If many of these items are missing from the stores, the situation in the warehouses is not the same. How is this possible?! We will begin to explain the problems, relying on the answers we have received.

A Hungry Market and Market Hunger

We call a hungry market the virtually empty state of the stores, and market hunger the fact that, whenever an item appears in a shop, it disappears (because we are dealing with stores let us use a retail metaphor) faster than a housewife could heat oil at home, if she had any. The first excuse for this wretched and painful situation is that the population has bought more food than it needs. This is true, but it is also true that people have lost their faith in the present and the future, even though it has been announced that we have three months' reserves of the principal food products. These products are nevertheless rationed, and one cannot obtain one's ration because it does not arrive and... sometimes, amazingly, there are major disruptions in the bread supply. One wonders, does this instability on the market encourage us to lay in stores of food at home or the opposite? It was we who were on rations at New Year. Many of us did not obtain them because... they did not exist. It was we who asked sales assistants to save our ration for us after the New Year, and said we would borrow from our neighbors for New Year's Eve. It was we who heard and chewed over the sales assistants' replies: You will not receive any, because there is none. It was we.... This

leads to the creation of little "warehouses" at home. No family would wish to be without the most essential supplies at times of joy or sorrow, for their children to be without sugar, oil, or even jam, for parents to be without wine or spirits, or for the greengrocers to be inundated with carrots and beetroot. An explanation for the reader: There are reserves of food in the warehouses. How many days these will last is another question. It is a fact that foodstuffs such as meat, sugar, butter, etc. do arrive, but how do they arrive, with difficulty or not? There is a shortage of packaging. As I said at the outset, there is also a shortage of accountability under the law among leading management cadres in the district and the retail enterprises, for failing to do their job.

Market Hunger and a Hungry Market

The purchasing power of our population has risen. This is not because of higher wages; on the contrary, it is because the market is empty. It is market hunger. It is not a matter of being empty for an hour, a day, or a week. Shortages are much more common than any supply. Because there are repeated salt shortages, we may use a popular expression, "salt in your food, but salt in moderation." Do the leaders of the executive committees of the local and district people's councils, up to the title holder Llambi Gegprifti, know that this is one of the most acute problems with which leaders face the people, and that every leader receives a pass mark according to how he deals with this problem? How bloated with employees these committees are, but what are they for if they do not meet the people's demands?!

It is not a matter of a single occasion or merely of the last few days. The people want food and not sympathy. They understand and know the situation, and are therefore modest in their demands. They also know the bureaucracy well and how every cadre lives; they have eyes to see, ears to hear, and tongues with which to speak. They are sorry and pained when they see the most basic elementary items missing from the market, while some leading party cadre is renovating his home, and that a crane has even been erected for this purpose. When they took office, they pompously and noisily announced that they did not want this or that privilege. It seems that their words are gone with the wind, while their deeds stand like that crane over the house.

There Is a Shortage of Containers

Hearing this, some people might blame the public, but such people should keep their promises to work harder and with tighter discipline. It has been said quite often in the press that it is hard to return beer and oil bottles because they are not accepted. Now comes the excuse that there is a shortage of containers, "although, after great efforts, we found some and put oil on the market." It is a good thing that these management cadres do not ask for decorations and bonuses for good work. It seems that their style of work is to prevaricate until the noose is round their neck, or, rather, until the last train leaves.
There Are No Trucks

There are no trucks to transport sugar and supply the stores. There are no.... However, we are a state. What we mean is that if transportation is so difficult, the Army has stockpiled entire pools of vehicles. Let us mobilize them to give the people food. This is a war, and these days we have no greater struggle than this. Is this so difficult to imagine?

Our Good and Patriotic People Have Never Demanded Forbidden Fruit

They have forgotten the taste and smell of tangerines, grapes, and this year even apples, oranges, and lots and lots of other things that we do not need to mention because people know perfectly well what they are. They have the right to speak, to do so loudly, and to say: I am not asking for forbidden fruit but bread and water for myself and my children. That is what I want. Let the comrades in power centrally and at the base listen to the people. Let them listen carefully and give our good and unpretentious people the right that they demand, not producing the excuse, "There is a shortage of flour because of excess bread consumption," which is as painful as it is barbaric. It does not excuse the inexcusable, but on the contrary makes us furious.
A Small Conclusion

Someone might say that this has been very harshly said and written. That is true. Someone else might say that an article should offer more ways to solve these problems. That is also true. Someone might say.... Everything that might be said might be true, but one great truth stands above all these truths: The people have great and exceptional supply difficulties, and these arise from the negligence of certain more or less responsible officials who have not yet been punished by the law.

Cooperativists Express Insecurity About Future

AU3101203591 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 20 Jan 91 p 1

[Llazar Parangoni article: "The Agricultural Cooperative Is the Property of All Its Members"]

[Text] On 17 January 1991, we published on the first page of our newspaper an article entitled "Democracy Is Not Anarchy." It mentioned that a group of cooperativists in the agricultural cooperatives of Armen and Cerkovine in Vlore District recently each took cows from the collective herd and drove them home. The article went on to say that the cows were returned to the cooperative's cowsheds after the intervention of the state services of the district. If this were an isolated case, we would not return to it. We think there have been other cases. Similar tendencies, even more extreme, have been apparent in other districts.

A week ago, we were at the agricultural cooperative of Krutje in Lushnje District. In the village of Krutje e Siperme, a group of cooperativists had summoned the cooperative's managers and had asked to be given a cow each. They justified this by saying that they had only

received a few sheep and goats when the small herds were dispersed. These cooperativists, however, were calling for the dispersal of the stock which guarantees their pay, as well as accumulation. Some cooperativists in Sarave, also in Lushnje District, had also demanded cows from the collective herds.

Some cooperativists in Tufine in Tirana District recently stopped work, demanding an increase in their daily wage. In Roshnik near Berat, people have abandoned work for days on end, some demanding that the cooperative should be divided into two, some into eight.

We are not certain about another report which we heard at the Ministry of Agriculture, claiming that Armen in Vlore District also intended to divide up the cooperative's land. It is plausible, because there are similar reports from elsewhere; however, let us concentrate on Krutje and argue that there is nothing democratic at all about such behavior.

It is true that some families in Krutje and elsewhere did not receive cows when the brigades' small herds were divided up. They received sheep and goats, because the small herds consisted of small livestock. At that time, no one complained, and there were even people who did not wish to take cows home. Now, made aware of the benefits of keeping livestock in their own yards, they urgently demand both sheep and cows. Where can the cooperative find them? By dividing up the collective herds? Someone might say: "Divide them up. The livestock are their own property." This "someone" might as well say that the funds for guaranteeing wages and accumulation can be divided up, "because it is their money." One could say the same about the land, because "it is their own." Such opinions sow anarchy, uproar, and destabilization in the countryside.

Except for the land, everything in the cooperative is group property, to which the cooperative's sons and daughters have contributed, as have also their parents who are now in retirement or who have died. It is not an expression of democracy to destroy now what you have built. In discussions with these cooperativists, one learns that they are not against the cooperative. On the contrary, they want higher incomes from the cooperative. They justify their demands by saying "No one knows what will happen tomorrow, so let us take the livestock, and divide up the available money too...." No, comrade cooperativists! The cooperative cannot be strengthened by taking the cows from their byres, nor by leaving the till empty. Krutje is paying 20 leks per working day this year, or more per worker than is the average among the agricultural enterprises of Lushnje District. If the funds for wages and accumulation are divided up, the daily rate will rise to 28 leks. This might be done, but would this wage be guaranteed next year? What about the investments the cooperative must make?

These things must be thought about before such demands are made. No member of the group can behave in just any way with group property, even motivated by "insecurity about the future." On the basis of the statute, which is the sole constitution of the cooperative's life, a cooperative is governed by a general meeting of its members. The relevant decisions are made on this basis. It is precisely this statute, approved by every member of the cooperative, that forbids the spontaneous behavior of specific individuals. It is not too much to recall on this occasion that, to earn higher incomes, every cooperativist, specialist, and cooperative manager should appeal to people's consciences to work more. It is time to encourage work morale in the countryside also, with greater confidence in today and the future.

Nano, Kapllani Leave for World Economic Forum

AU3101212991 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] An Albanian Government delegation headed by Fatos Nano, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister Muhamet Kapllani, left today for Switzerland to take part in this year's session of the World Economic Forum, at the invitation of its president, Klaus (?Schwarz).

The delegation was seen off at Rinas Airport by Foreign Minister Reis Malile, Gjon Gorishti, deputy secretary general of the Council of Ministers, and other comrades.

The World Economic Forum is an independent international organization. It was created in Geneva in 1971 to coordinate efforts in political, business, and scientific activities and to create new structures in international political and economic relations through periodic direct contacts among high-level personalities of states and international organizations.

At this year's meeting, alongside high-level representatives from European countries, the United States, Japan, and Canada, leadings officials of the EEC, the United Nations, [word indistinct] and the GATT will also be attending.

The participation of an Albanian delegation at such a meeting for the first time indicates the appreciation shown by this important forum and the international community for the process of democratization and the reforms undertaken in our country for its integration in European and world processes.

In responding to the invitation and with the participation of its delegation at this session, the government of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania expresses its will and commitment to join in the international community's common efforts and initiatives to develop qualitatively new relationships among its member states by institutionalizing dialogue, effective cooperation, and the necessary political initiatives.

At this session, the leader of the Albanian delegation, Fatos Nano, will deliver a lecture entitled The Road of Reforms in Albania. This will help to better acquaint participants with reality in our country and help toward

an exchange of views and experience on extending relations of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

The Albanian delegation will conduct talks with representatives of various states and international organizations on integration in Europe and beyond and on the establishment of new relations with the EEC, the IMF, the OECD, etc.

Experiences of Refugees in Greece Described

AU3101171991 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 20 Jan 91 p 2

[Stefan Martiko article: "A Flight and a Return"]

[Text] The opportunity to tackle a topical subject came to me quite unexpectedly. I met a 17-18 year-old boy, who had been in Greece a few days before. He had crossed the border like thousands of others and found himself in another world. He had seen a great deal, both good and bad. On the night of his flight, a clear night when the moon illuminated the distant mountain peaks, he had experienced pure terror. As he traversed the side of a mountain, he had seen a girl who had fallen into a gully and was unable to climb out. The horror of this sight would haunt him during all the following days. She was one of the escapees whose crazy dream ended in death. That night, thousands of people followed in each other's footsteps, because a chasm could swallow them at any moment. Snow, ice, and frost. The boy said: We left the border behind us with its guards who looked at us in amazement without being able to do anything to stop us. We were heading toward a dream, leaving behind us the wailing of mothers and sisters. One of these mothers ran after her only son and when she caught up with him said: "If you go any further I will find my grave here, at this moment." The boy turned home. What about the others, where were they going? Toward the unknown, having made a decision that would perhaps torture their consciences for the rest of their lives. Even if they earned something economically, this would still not assuage their consciences. In this way, the boy had walked on, until he was shut up in a village which he could not leave without police permission. He ran away in secret, however, to set out on an Odyssey through Greece, like the great explorer of Ithaca. After this marathon, he found shelter in the storehouse of a shopkeeper near Kerkira, where he carted agricultural produce. The others kept on the road in search of work, shelter, and a means of subsistence. For some, this came at a price. The boy told me, and the story etched itself in my brain like torture, how one man among the escapees had sent one of his sons into the streets of a town: "Dhenekis dhrahmi!" (I have no money), perhaps the only words of Greek he knew. He used these words instead of the friendly greetings of "kalimera" [good day] or "kalispera" [good evening].

The boy who told me this plays his own small part in a painful tale. His father set off in search of him, crossing Greece from coast to coast, on foot and by car, until he found his son's exact address. He took him by the hand, and came back the same way that they had come, as if to wipe away the bitter memory of the road both had taken with so much labor and sacrifice. They walked for 14 hours, crossing snow-covered mountains, and saw the same scenes as those of a few days before, with other crowds crossing the border. The euphoria continued. When would it abate, and when would people think quietly and with clear heads about what they were leaving and what lay in store for them? Is it so easy to tear yourself from your roots, from where pain will one day follow you like an inexorable law to condemn you in your soul? Do they know that a person who leaves something behind must take with him the serious burden of knowing that whoever lacks strength must surrender to fate?

Father and son, they returned. Torture to remember it. The boy is now plunged in thought, and I notice that he smiles more rarely than he used to. I wonder how heavy he finds the burden of those days, and whether this trial will be serious enough to prevent him from embarking on another dangerous game? Time will tell, like for us all. However, you do not leave the country without paying a serious toll.

Zhelev Says Warsaw Pact 'Outlived Its Time'

LD0102092491 Prague CTK in English 0812 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Sofia Feb 1 (CTK)—The Warsaw Pact has outlived its time and Bulgaria will leave it together with Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary, Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev said in an exclusive interview for CTK.

Zhelev said the main tasks of his country's foreign policy is its integration in all-European political and economic structures and ensuring Bulgaria's security in new conditions.

Referring to the Persian Gulf crisis he pointed out that upon his proposal the parliament approved the sending of a military, medical and anti-chemical unit to the region, which has not gone there, however, as Saudi Arabia did not answer repeated offers.

Asked about the prepared trial of former Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov, Zhelev said Zhivkov is chiefly responsible for the present situation in Bulgaria. His regime was a one-man rule. The truth about how he misused his position must be exposed to the whole nation in the trial. "I believe that this truth will have a purifying effect at any rate", said Zhelev.

Referring to Bulgarian-Czechoslovak relations, he said in the interview, granted on the occasion of his coming visit to Czechoslovakia (February 4-5), that their prospects were good. He said Bulgaria intends to maintain all that was positive in its relations with countries of the former socialist bloc, though in the transition to market economy there will naturally be problems with hard currency payments. He said that the failure of socialism was an identical feture of development in the two countries last year, which are now heading for radical economic reforms that will lead to normal market economy. Zhelev further said that though the elections in Bulgaria had been won by the former Communist Party, the fundamental elements of a democratic system became a reality in the political sphere. Unfortunately, Bulgaria's economic situation is disastrous, much more difficult than in Czechoslovakia and therefore the troubles the Bulgarian people are experiencing are much greater, said Zhelev.

He added that Bulgaria expects a decline of tourists from Czechoslovakia and other East European countries as a result of the introduction of payments in convertible currencies but said he hoped that with the deepening of democratic processes and developing economic reform, Bulgaria would show that it is capable of competing with other European countries with an advanced tourist industry.

Zhelev Holds Talks at Council of Europe

AU3101211891 Sofia BTA in English 2040 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Strasbourg, January 31 (BTA)—The president of Bulgaria, Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, made an official visit to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg today.

President Zhelev had a meeting with the president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Mr. Anders Bjorck.

The spokesman for the president told journalists that Mr. Anders Bjorck had expressed satisfaction with the ratification of the four conventions of the Council of Europe by the Bulgarian Parliament. The Bulgarian president expressed his conviction that Eastern Europe had embarked irreversibly on the road to democracy in spite of the war in the Persian Gulf and the political developments in the Soviet Union.

Dr. Zhelev had a meeting with the members of the Bureau of the Deputy Foreign Ministers of the Council of Europe Member Countries, who received him in their capacity of members of the Committee of Ministers.

The chairman of the bureau, Ambassador Jose Manuel Lacleta, [spelling as received] informed the Bulgarian president that Bulgaria's application for full membership in the Council of Europe had been received by the Committee of Ministers and that it would be discussed at the session of the Committee of Ministers to be held in February this year. President Zhelev expressed Bulgaria's readiness to sign the Convention on Culture and the European Convention on Human Rights, if she is invited to do so by the Council of Europe.

Later on the president of the Republic presented to Ms. Catherine Lalumiere, secretary general of the Council of Europe, the ratification documents for Bulgaria's joining the first four conventions of the Council of Europe. The documents were signed by Mr. Viktor Vulkov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, and by Ms. Catherine Lalumiere, secretary general of the Council of Europe.

In a statement made at a news conference later today, President Zhelev expressed his satisfaction with the opportunity to plead, on behalf of Bulgaria, for her admittance to full membership in the Council of Europe. "Our presence here, in Strasbourg, in the Council of Europe, crowns the efforts of Bulgaria's foreign policy that seeks the country's integration with the international political and economic structures," the Bulgarian head of state underlined.

Vulkov Presents Council of Europe Application

AU2601194491 Sofia BTA in English 1806 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Vienna, January 26 (BTA)—Yesterday Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs Viktor Vulkov presented Bulgaria's official application for membership in the Council of Europe to the secretary general of the Council Ms. Catherine Lalumiere. Last July Bulgaria was granted the special guest status. After the meeting in the lobby of "Austria Centre" in Vienna during the Conference on East-to-West Migration, the secretary general promised to do all she can for the early acceptance of Bulgaria in the European family.

During the conference the Bulgarian foreign minister had meetings and talks with the leaders of the French delegation and with the leader of the Greek delegation, the Greek Minister of Public Order Mr. Ioannis Vassiliadis.

Mr. Vulkov used his stay in Vienna, where the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are situated, to meet with its director general Mr. Hans Blix. Bulgaria and the IAEA will make all efforts for the further development of their joint activities. The IAEA will help the Bulgarian nuclear power engineering with all forms of cooperation. Mr. Blix highly estimated the work of Bulgarian nuclear power engineers and the cooperation with the competent Bulgarian institutions. The agency approves of the development of nuclear power engineering in Bulgaria. Experts say its effectiveness is above the world average.

Foreign Affairs Minister at Migration Conference

AU2601164891 Sofia BTA in English 1521 GMT 26 Jan 91

[Text] Vienna, January 26 (BTA)—East-to-West migration is a reality predetermined by the right of the individual to decide his own fate. Maybe the future all-European home will require from the European Community member-nations to change their immigration laws and to update them in compliance with the new developments, Mr. Viktor Vulkov, minister of foreign affairs of Bulgaria, underlined in Vienna yesterday, addressing the first international conference on the problems of migration from Eastern to Western Europe organized by the Council of Europe.

The moment at which the conference is being held is unique, Mr. Vulkov said. The European peoples are making their progress towards opening, they are drawing closer together, they are striving for integration. This idea should not remain an utopia, it is our duty to transfer it into life, the Bulgarian foreign minister emphasized.

Minister Vulkov reminded that after November 10, 1989, Bulgaria embarked on the road to a new democratic society. A multiparty system has been established in the country, there is parliamentary opposition. Some important steps have been made to guarantee the rights and freedoms of all Bulgarian citizens irrespective of their ethnic identity or religion and to bring the related Bulgarian legislation in line with the internationally accepted standards. The laws regulating the issue of passports, Bulgarian citizenship and the status of foreign citizens have been considerably changed. New possibilities have been opened for the Bulgarian citizens to find their lawful place in the democratic family of European nations, to travel freely abroad and visit relatives and friends, Mr. Vulkov pointed out.

There are about three million Bulgarians abroad. They live not only in Bulgaria's neighbour countries, but in the other European countries, in the United States, Canada, Argentina and Australia, he said. The stream of emigrants from Bulgaria after World War II was like a heavy tax which the totalitarian regime imposed on the Bulgarian people, Mr. Vulkov said.

We know that if the standard of living in Bulgaria is not improved soon, the emigration of highly qualified specialists will go on and no government will be able to resist the temptation to accept them. The people of enterprise will work in those countries where they will get a better pay, no matter what the conditions there may be. They will not pose a threat to Western Europe, but it is another question how to regulate this stream of people, Minister Vulkov pointed out.

In conclusion he stated once again that Bulgaria will seek to establish better, friendly relations with her neighbours and, if possible, to open to the world, to eliminate all economic and political barriers of the past, to become a member of united Europe. Let the migration process in Europe, though restricted within certain limits, become a bridge that will rather unite than divide our countries, Bulgaria's foreign minister, Mr. Viktor Vulkov, said, winding up his speech in Vienna.

Delegation Returns From Lithuanian; Views Scene

AU3001225191 Sofia BTA in English 2028 GMT 30 Jan 91

["Bulgarian MP's: What Happens in Lithuania Is Terrible"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, January 30 (BTA)—"Official Soviet mass media absolutely misrepresent the events in Lithuania," Mr. Mikhail Nedelchev, an MP of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS), told journalists today. Mr. Nedelchev was on the delegation that returned to Bulgaria today after a three-day visit to Lithuania.

The Bulgarian MP's had a meeting with Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis, addressed the Lithuanian parliament and gave a press conference which was broadcast live on the independent Lithuanian television. The delegation has brought video and audio cassette recordings of the events and eyewitness accounts.

The MP's who visited Lithuania: Mr. Mikhail Nedelchev, Mr. Angel Akhryanov and Mrs. Ira Antonova of the SDS, Mr. Atanas Uzunov of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party, Mr. Evgeni Evelinov of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms and Ms. Matushka Avramova of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], will give a special press conference to describe the events in Lithuania.

"The people in Lithuania are composed and confident that what they do is right," Mr. Nedelchev pointed out.

"The current events in Lithuania are the work of a new dictatorship," Mrs. Matushka Avramova said. She went to Vilnius on her own expense. "By visiting Lithuania I expressed my own position and the position of the

Alternative Socialist Organization, a faction outside the BSP, because my fellow Socialist MP's refused to approve the sending of an official parliamentary delegation to Vilnius," Mrs. Avramova said. She added she was shocked by what she saw, by "what happens in civilized Europe at the end of the 20th century."

"What I saw with my eyes was horrible," Mrs. Ira Antonova said. Asked whether the same things could happen in Bulgaria, Mrs. Antonova said she would not even think of such a thing. "It is one thing to see the events on the television and another to see a man dying at the hands of Soviet soldiers," Mrs. Antonova told the BTA. "We saw 18-year old Soviet soldiers who have beaten a man to death. The Bulgarian people have not the slightest idea of what is going on there," Mrs. Antonova said. She believes the delegation that visited Lithuania should give a special press conference. "Lithuanians are people of exceptional moral strength, aristocrats of spirit who would fight for their liberation. They have nothing in common with the Soviet empire and only physical extermination could make them stay within that empire."

"The Lithuanian radio and television are surrounded by Soviet tanks," Mr. Voyko Tanev, a "TRUD" journalist, told the BTA. Mr. Tanev was first in Riga and then in Vilnius where he met the Bulgarian delegation. Here is his account of the events in the Baltics:

"The Lithuanian television and the central Soviet television broadcast conflicting reports. I saw with my eyes the shootouts in Riga on January 20, and the 'berets' storming the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Two hours later the central Soviet television said that there had been a skirmish between special police forces and republican police units and that there were reports of casualties. But there was no mention of the real fighting that went on for more than two hours. The Finnish and Latvian televisions had covered the event but their reports did not appear on central television, which described the whole thing as a minor incident. But what is happening in Lithuania is a life-and-death struggle.

"Some say that the barricades in Lithuania were symbolic. Of course, they were symbolic. You cannot stop tanks with some twenty cement blocks. Yet the people there have no other choice but to raise barricades.

"At the moment it is calm in Vilnius. But it only appears to be calm. It's like a ground-swell; the surface is calm but below the sea is turbulent. At first sight you might say that Vilnius is a normal, peaceful city but then you see Soviet tanks and gun-touting Soviet patrols, you see beaten and molested people, Russians included, and you suddenly realize the truth. The people in Vilnius have been living in a state of war for 15 days now," Mr. Tanev said.

Finance Minister Announces Agreement With IMF

AU3101190391 Sofia BTA in English 1821 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Sofia, January 31 (BTA)—Bulgaria and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have reached an agreement, Mr. Ivan Kostov, minister of finance, said at today's news conference held jointly with the leader of the IMF mission, Mr. Anoup Singh.

Mr. Singh specified that by this the first stage of the negotiations between Bulgaria and the IMF was completed. Now the program of the Bulgarian Government stated in the letter of intentions will have to be approved by the president of the IMF and its executive board. Bulgaria's needs, which this year come up to 4.5 billion dollars, are beyond the possibilities of the IMF, Mr. Singh said. The World Bank and the Group of 24 may grant part of the 1.6 billion dollars required to meet the most urgent needs.

The most difficult point during the negotiations was the adoption of a common concept about the reform and the measures to be taken to bring inflation under control. In the opinion of the IMF mission Bulgaria will have to do her best to curb the galloping inflation which would considerably delay the transition to a market economy. The IMF would not recommend a "dollarization" of the country's economy, but the decision on this question lies within the competence of Bulgaria's Government, Mr. Singh said, and added that the IMF mission was here in their capacity of advisers.

According to Mr. Kostov, last year the inflation reached 120 percent, and after the liberalization of prices it is expected to soar by 90 per cent. This year, production is expected to drop by 8-10 percent compared with last year.

Popov Meets IMF Official

AU3001225391 Sofia BTA in English 2057 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Sofia, January 30 (BTA)—Prime Minister Dimitur Popov had a meeting with Mr. Posthumous, executive director of the International Monetary Fund. Mr. Posthumous showed interest in the government measures intended to curb inflation, in the radical banking reform and in the Privatization Agency, the Press Centre of the Council of Ministers reported.

National Assembly Endorses Government's Program

AU3101194491 Sofia BTA in English 1910 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Sofia, January 31 (BTA)—Today the program of the government headed by Prime Minister Dimitur Popov was endorsed by the Bulgarian Parliament. The prime minister declared that his cabinet would not succumb to adventure.

The representatives of the main political forces in parliament made special statements expressing support for the program declaration Prime Minister Popov presented last week.

The leader of the Socialists, Mr. Aleksandur Lilov, was the first to support the government. He underlined that the Bulgarian Socialist Party would not indulge in demagogy and would not place its election interests above the country's interests. Mr. Lilov appealed on the Socialists to free themselves of all illusions and work for achieving national concord. He recommended to the government to pay more attention to the social aspects of the program and insisted on a just distribution of the burden of the crisis among the different strata of the population.

The parliamentary spokesman for the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS], Mr. Aleksandur Yordanov, also expressed support for the program of the government. The government has embarked on the road to changing the system and the UDF will back it up, because that has been its goal since the very moment the UDF was formed, Mr. Yordanov said. According to the united opposition Mr. Popov's cabinet should present a clear-cut program for its further decisions, it should be consistent in making its next steps and should take up its duties, especially in the provinces.

Mr. Rosen Mikhaylov, representative of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party, repeated Mr. Lilov's opinion that the government should tell what the social price of the reform would be. The Agrarians want guarantees from the government that the Bulgarians' enterprise will be stimulated without assuming the prerogatives of the legislature. Mr. Mikhaylov underlined that the government should pay special attention to the country's national security and determine the actual needs of the Army.

Mr. Popov's program was backed up by the Movement for Rights and Freedoms (MRF) [DPS]. The spokesman for the MRF, Mr. Yunal Lyutfi, [also known as Lyutfiev] complained that too little attention is paid to human rights in the program. The MRF expects the government to give the Turks the possibility of exercising their constitutional rights and study the Turkish language.

From the statement made by Mr. Andrey Lukanov it became clear that the former prime minister backs up Mr. Popov's program. Lukanov is still reproached that the two governments headed by him almost fatally delayed the reform. I am sorry for the time wasted, but it is neither the right time nor the right place to discuss it now, Mr. Lukanov said.

It is not the Socialists who are to blame for delaying the start of the reform, the leader of the parliamentary group of the Socialists, Ms. Nora Ananieva, underlined. She declared that the Socialists will present alternatives to the decisions of the government.

Prime Minister Popov was the last to take the floor. He said that no analogy of the government program should be sought in past and future programs. Do not offer alternatives to what has been already laid down in the political agreement, having in mind that in few months the circumstances will change, he underlined. He said that the government reserves its right to go beyond the framework of the program it has declared.

Government Ready With 1991 Draft Budget

AU3101172891 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1630 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] At its session today, the government finally approved the draft budget for 1991, which foresees a national budget deficit of 8.5 billion leva. This percentage deficit corresponds to the demands of the IMF.

The government decided to submit the draft budget law to the Grand National Assembly at its session tomorrow, along with a request from the government that the legislature should examine the draft budget as a matter of priority on its first working day next week.

In the course of the cabinet session it became clear that a telex had been sent out to the relevant authorities in the country asking them to urgently conduct an inventory of the stocks of goods in the trading network, with the aim of eliminating possible opportunities for speculation regarding the freeing of prices from tomorrow.

Government To Privatize Newsprint Market

AU3101174791 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1630 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] At its meeting today, the government discussed measures for introducing free trading in newsprint from 1 March. The government will cease to control the import of newsprint and regulate its distribution, but will only provide newsprint for the needs of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Justice, and for printing the government journal. The remaining quantities of imported newsprint for which contracts have been signed will be sold by auction.

For the month of February, the government will release 1,000 tonnes of newsprint for the needs of the press. The Public Council under the Main Administration for the Press and Book Publishing will allocate this quantity between the newspapers, together with 2,000 tonnes of home-produced newsprint. Of this amount, 800 tonnes will be distributed (?every two weeks), including 500 tonnes for newspapers and 200 tonnes for journals.

City Council Announces New Milk, Bread Prices

AU3101205991 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] To prevent possible abuses, the Sofia City People's Council announces that the following retail prices for milk and milk products will apply as of tomorrow, 1 February:

A 1-liter polyethylene container of pasteurized cow's milk with 3-percent fat content will cost 2 leva 20 stotinki. A 0.5-liter polystyrene pack of sour full-fat cow's milk will cost 1 lev 60 stotinki; and an 0.5-liter polyethylene pack of Mladost sour cow's milk will cost 1 lev 40 stotinki.

The prices for bread will be as follows: a normal loaf will cost 1 lev 60 stotinki; a Dobrudzha loaf—1 lev 80 stotinki; and a Stara Zagora loaf—2 leva. These prices are for 1 kilogram loaves. The cost of the 830-gram loaf produced by the Lyulin Bakery Plant will be proportionally less.

Increase in Black Market Activity, Other Crimes

AU3001193291 Sofia BTA in English 1856 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Sofia, January 30 (BTA)—Black marketeering, smuggling and other forms of the shadow economy take up the lion's share of criminality in present-day Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian economy is no longer totalitarian and is not yet a market economy. A feature in the "TRUD" newspaper has called it a "black-market economy."

Drivers of Serdika, a state-owned dairy products monopoly, were caught selling a truckload of milk and yogurt late at night in a square in the centre of Sofia.

Magurata, a downtown cafe, boasts the highest density of Mercedes cars per square kilometre in Bulgaria. This is the "headquarters" of a semi-legal money market in which fledgling Bulgarian financiers learn the art of sidewalk banking, exchanging dollars, Deutsche marks and other hard currencies at a black-market rate. Reporting the first ever police bust of the place, Bulgarian television recently showed staggering pictures of litter bins stuffed with banknotes as money-changers hastened to get rid of the incriminating evidence.

Serious offences against the person in Bulgaria have almost trebled over the last few years. Crime figures released by the police suggest that housebreaking offences have increased more than four-fold during the last five years.

Along with the traditionally stealable money, jewelry, TV sets and VCR's, thieves have recently "branched out" into medicines, food, alcoholic drinks and coffee, all of them scarce items. Three unidentified persons tied up the watchman of a warehouse in a village near Sofia and took away 112 kilos of washing powder, an item which has not been stocked in shops for quite some time.

The press service of the National Police Force Directorate announced that two ingenious thieves, posing as policemen, recently "searched" a private home in Sofia in the presence of the host. When they left he found out that a large sum of money, gold jewelry and watches had disappeared with them.

The Bulgarian security forces have taken emergency measures to prevent terrorist acts in connection with the Gulf war. No such acts have been detected here so far, but the so-called "phone terrorism" is booming. The special police departments are inundated with phone tip-offs of explosive devices being planted in schools, shops and other public buildings. Ninety-nine per cent of the calls prove a hoax but none go unchecked, police sources told a news conference here.

Ionizing radiation sources, which can be used for acts of terror, are stolen ever more frequently, a police directorate officer told the "DUMA" daily. Sensors, flaw detectors and other devices using sources of radioactivity are particularly stealable. Last year a policeman found a container of radioactive iodine 131 neglected in the specially designed lead-lined depot at Sofia Airport. The container was delivered for medical purposes but the addressee did not turn up to collect it.

Social Democrats To Hold Congress 22-24 Mar

AU3101174691 Sofia BTA in English 1635 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Sofia, January 31 (BTA)—The Bulgarian Social Democratic Party (BSDP) will hold its congress on March 22, 23 and 24 in Sofia, it was announced at today's briefing with the Executive Council of the BSDP and its parliamentary group.

The head of the BSDP press centre, Ruen Krumov, underlined that according to an enquiry held in January the BSDP has the most supporters among the people who would vote for the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) [SDS].

In connection with the rumours that the BSDP will leave the UDF, the leader of the party, Dr. Petur Dertliev, pointed out that his party is "the last that would leave the UDF." It is difficult for a man to leave the home he has built himself, he said.

Cabinet Approves Antichemical Unit Deployment

LD3101185191 Prague CTK in English 1712 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 31 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Federal Cabinet agreed today that the Czechoslovak antichemical unit can fulfill its tasks in support of Saudi units, ensuing from a Czechoslovak-Saudi Government accord, also outside Saudi Arabia, namely on the territory of Kuwait.

At its regular meeting, the Cabinet discussed a new concept of customs and import regulations. Government members will consider possibilities of regulating tariffs, in particular on goods which will compete on the Czechoslovak market with a domestic monopoly producer (e.g. cars). To this end, an import surcharge must be flexibly applied in order to prevent these regulations from affecting consumers and to put effective pressure on manufacturers and trade.

The Cabinet was informed of a blueprint for a package of measures aimed at lessening the effects of the liberalization of prices. Many of these measures, such as a fixed minimum wage, unemployment benefits or cost-of-living adjustments, are contained in the "general agreement" between the governments, trade unions and employers earlier this week. Among the measures is a bill on changes in sickness insurance, approved today, under which the maximum daily amount from which sickness and maternity benefits are calculated will be raised from the present 180 crowns. The maternity grant upon the birth of a child will be raised from 2,000 to 3,000 crowns.

Assembly Statement Praises Israeli Restraint

LD3101164991 Prague CTK in English 1500 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 31 (CTK)—Czechoslovak parliament approved in conclusion of its meeting here today a statement praising Israel for its restraint in relation towards Iraqi attacks, and voicing solidarity with the people of Israel.

The statement says that all the moves taken by Iraq against Israel since the war for the liberation of Kuwait was launched a fortnight ago are of no military importance, but are intended to terrorize Israel's civil population.

Even though international law gives Israel the right to retaliate, it has not used it in order to thwart allied success in repelling the Iraqi aggression, the statement says.

The 13th joint session of the two houses of Czechoslovak parliament will continue on Tuesday February 5.

Kuwaiti Ambassador on Role of Resistance Movement

AU0102103891 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 23 Jan 91 p 2

[Interview with Musa Sulayman al-Musa al-Sayf, Kuwaiti ambassador to Czechoslovakia, by a "(DK)"-signed reporter; place and date not given: "Kuwaiti Resistance Is Out in the Open"; first paragraph is LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE introduction]

[Excerpts] We asked Mr. Musa Sulayman al-Musa al-Sayf, the Kuwaiti ambassador in Prague, to answer a few questions concerning the conflict in the Persian Gulf. [passage omitted]

[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE] How far have the resistance fighters in Kuwait developed their activity and what chance do they have of intervening once the ground front is open?

[Al-Sayf] The Kuwaiti resistance struggle has been out in the open since the beginning of the war. The resistance fighters mainly guarantee Kuwaiti citizens' security and safeguard their movements in the country. Thanks to this resistance, the Iraqi soldiers' pugnacity is crumbling. There are many appeals not to unnecessarily provoke the Iraqis at the moment. We believe that, after the front is opened, our resistance will play a significant role. Its members' self-confidence increased greatly when they found out that Kuwaitis are participating in the air and sea battles. The Iraqi soldiers' enthusiasm is waning; they are often not very enthused by the fact that they are occupying a neighboring and friendly Arab country. Saddam mostly relies on his palace guard. Its commanding officers come mostly from his family. The allies' attacks are now concentrating on this guard. His Army was one of the best in the Arab world; of course, they are not convinced about the correctness of his behavior. [passage omitted]

[LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE] Is there a preliminary estimate of damages in Kuwait?

[Al-Sayf] At the moment, damages are estimated at $60-80 billion, apart from the huge loans we granted Iraq and never got back. The overall estimate is approximately $100 billion. I have just heard news reports that the Iraqis have begun destroying oil fields in the Wafra District and in other areas of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Assembly Considers Council of Europe Membership

LD3101154391 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0900 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Michal Tvarozek report in Prague on the 13th Federal Assembly joint session; place and date not given]

[Text] The faster and more prompt the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly is in deciding our membership in the oldest political organization on the continent, the less time Minister Jiri Dienstbier has to wait to

submit a draft proposal to deputies on the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic's approach to the Council of Europe statute. Only after a 40-minute delay was Alexander Dubcek able to say that both chambers at last had a quorum.

Deputies heard an explanation by the minister of foreign affairs. He said that it would only take 10 months after submitting our application to be accepted as a full member of the Council of Europe. After the unanimous approval voiced in Strasbourg, this should now happen on 21 February. After that date we will be a full member of this organization which Dienstbier called the cornerstone of the future face of Europe. We will be represented in the Council by seven to eight deputies, full members, and the same number of extraordinary ones. This depends on the size of the population and on the level of the contribution. After a short discussion, deputies expressed agreement with the draft proposal on the Council of Europe statute.

Then a debate on the maximum levels of conventional arms and military equipment was postponed because discussion on this topic has not yet been completed in committees.

Minister Lubos Dobrovsky then concluded his address and a discussion on the next item of the agenda—the draft military doctrine of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic—began. I will tell you more in my next report from the Federal Assembly.

Foreign Ministry Seeks Information on Baltics

LD3101184791 Prague CTK in English 1752 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 31 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry asked for information on the current developments in Lithuania and Latvia in a note handed over today to Soviet Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Boris Pankin.

Czechoslovakia asked for this information within the mechanism of human dimension embodied in the final document of the CSCE follow-up meeting in Vienna.

Dubrovsky Addresses Assembly on Military Doctrine

LD3101160991 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1000 GMT 31 Jan 91

Michal Tvarozek report in Prague on the 13th Federal Assembly joint session; place and date not given]

[Text] At the beginning of the third day of the Federal Assembly joint session, deputies approved a draft proposal on the Council of Europe statute that we need to become a full member. This will happen on 21 February this year, as Foreign Affairs Minister Jiri Dienstbier told the Assembly.

Defense Minister Lubos Dobrovsky introduced a CSFR Council of Defense draft proposal on the military doctrine of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. He said that now that the Warsaw Pact has lost its importance, when its military element has stopped functioning, the draft doctrine expresses a new understanding of Army tasks. In the introduction it states that it proceeds from the basic principle of sovereignty of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, in harmony with its right for self-defense, and in the spirit of the UN Charter. Our Republic, the doctrine says, sees the defense of the independence of its democratic state as the greatest right and duty—both of the state and citizens.

Several deputies' comments focused on the present role of the Army which by its organization still corresponds to the totalitarian system. Deputy Mlynarik, just like some others, explained that the doctrine distances itself from the past. They see the role of the Army—the Army which has in fact capitulated three times: in 1938, 1948 and 1968—in a new way. Many deputies, however, appealed for the modernization of the border defense system.

Minister Dobrovsky said that, according to agreements, the last military forces of the Soviet Army are to leave our territory by the end of February and nonmilitary sections by the end of June.

Minister Dobrovsky criticized the Free Legions. Deputies are reacting to this issue, too. They are voicing their recommendations and proposals focused not so much on the essence of the draft military doctrine but on the (?wording) of its individual provisions.

Views Army's Duty

LD3101164491 Prague CTK in English 1447 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 31 (CTK)—"Our military doctrine's concept of defence is based on the principle of reasonably sufficient defence against any attack whatsoever, from any direction whatsoever," explained Czechoslovak Defence Minister Lubos Dobrovsky to parliament here today.

He noted that the proposed new doctrine does not assume an ideologically defined enemy. The Army's duty is to defend and protect Czechoslovakia, its state sovereignty, territorial integrity, and constitution as well as the values defended by the constitution, said the defence minister.

He described the doctrine as a reaction to changes in the political atmosphere of Europe and the world, initiated by the Helsinki process (CSCE). Its form and contents express opinions similar to those of experts from the other countries of Central Europe, but also from the United States and Canada, said Dobrovsky.

The doctrine considers Czechoslovakia as an indivisible whole. The Army thus is equally responsible for the defence of every part of the whole with all of its forces. In

view of the Army's reduced size and decreased number of weapons any other concept of defence is unthinkable, he emphasised.

The defence minister also stated that elitist or nationalist organisations such as the Legion of Freedom and the Slovak Soldiers' Association are profoundly at odds with the duty of the Czechoslovak Army. It seems that their existence is merely a cover to enable the repoliticisation of the Army, said Dobrovsky.

The deputies voted to postpone debate on the proposed new military doctrine until next week.

Dobrovsky Outlines Slovak Security Situation

AU3101135391 Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak 28 Jan 91 p 3 sb
[Interview with Defense Minister Lubos Dobrovsky by Andrej Javorsky in Prague on 27 January: "Slovakia's Security Is an Element of State Defense Policy"]

[Text] [Javorsky] Mr. Minister, the public is very interested in the current military-security situation in our country, first and foremost, as far as Slovakia is concerned. In this connection, Prime Minister Meciar made the following statement: Only 15 percent—approximately—of the state's forces are deployed in Slovakia. Therefore, it is essential....

[Dobrovsky] Prime Minister Meciar is dramatizing a situation that was unequivocally resolved in meetings with him—twice—in the State Defense Council where important issues were discussed. Prime Minister Meciar—obviously due to a misunderstanding—stated that the Czechoslovak Army is delaying redeployment. The opposite is true. On the basis of a justified request and on the basis of our own evaluation—not at the suggestion of the Slovak prime minister—we considered the possibility of accelerating the redeployment of military units and defense systems to Slovakia. We shortened the entire redeployment process by more than a year. Therefore, two planned divisions—one mechanized infantry division and one tank division—will be operational in the sense that they will have their full complement of men and equipment by 31 October this year. I have informed Prime Minister Meciar several times that this is the shortest possible date for the implementation of such a transfer. We will meet in Bratislava again today. I will be there, the chief of the General Staff will be there, and the commander of the Eastern Military District will be there. We will discuss the specific details of the transfer. I am very grateful to Prime Minister Meciar for offering us very effective assistance in resolving certain social problems associated with this large-scale troop redeployment.

This does not just involve loading equipment and troops onto trains and transferring them to Slovakia. This also involves finding accommodations for officers, seeking employment for officers' wives, placing their children in schools, and arranging living quarters for the soldiers. We will often be redeploying them to facilities which the Soviet Army has left in a very rundown condition. Associated with this is the fact that, for example, we have to construct a large number of storerooms for military equipment. Otherwise, redeploying troops there would make no sense.

This is a very complicated and demanding project; however, at the same time—and I emphasize this—it is necessary. It is in harmony with our military doctrine and it is in harmony with our plans. We have worked out a precise timetable for this transfer, and today we will acquaint not only Prime Minister Meciar with it, but also all the others who are concerned. We will then resolve specific issues in cooperation with the leaders of district authorities.

Prime Minister Meciar informed me of his justified feeling that our eastern border is insufficiently protected against a possible violation. I am aware of this; perhaps I was even aware of it before he was. Therefore, the Czechoslovak Army—as Prime Minister Meciar has been informed—is capable and prepared, in the event of need, to immediately adapt itself to situations that could in whatever way threaten the security of Slovak citizens and their property. This could even be done with the number of troops deployed on Slovak territory at the moment.

[Javorsky] As far as the military situation is concerned, that is only one aspect of the matter: the defense of the state and its territorial integrity. Citizens, however, are becoming anxious about developments in the Soviet Union, especially in the Baltic states. Slovakia could become the target of a refugee influx and, in this connection, it is being said on many levels that it is simply necessary to construct technical barriers on our eastern borders. Do you have any plans in this regard—road blocks, barbed wire fences?

[Dobrovsky] Not only Slovakia, but the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic may feel threatened from the possible wave of migration that could arise if the destabilization processes in the USSR intensify. This is not only an issue for Slovakia; it is an issue that affects the whole CSFR. I am the federal defense minister, the Army is a federal unit, and we are equally aware of our duty toward any part of our federal state. There is a specific probability that a migration wave will come from the east. We are monitoring this entire process in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. What I have already said is my reply to your question. The Czechoslovak Army is prepared to protect citizens' interests if such a migration wave takes place. Do not expect me to explain these plans in detail now. I can assure you, however, that we are not banking on barbed wire fences; they would be ineffective for such a purpose and would be pointless. On the contrary, they would arouse feelings of uncertainty and would signify a confrontationist doctrine.

[Javorsky] Mr. Minister, thank you for your explanation.

Bohunice Nuclear Power Plant Near 'Risk Point'

AU3101180791 Prague CTK in English 1918 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 28 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Minister-Chairman of the Federal Committee for the Environment Josef Vavrousek said here today that the nuclear power plant at Jaslovske Bohunice, West Slovakia, is nearing the admissible risk point, but can be safely operated.

Speaking at a seminar on safety of the V-1 plant he gave assurances that should any danger be signalled, the Czechoslovak Atomic Energy Commission will order its immediate shutdown.

Vavrousek recalled that operation safety at the plant, which has two 440 Megawatt reactors, was examined by several expert commissions over the past months one Czechoslovak, one from Siemens of Germany, two from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and one from Austria. The findings of the foreign commissions are identical with those of the Czechoslovak commission which were consulted with experts from Japan and France. (According to earlier information, the commissions recommended certain measures to be carried out at the plant to ensure its safe operation.) Only the stand of the Austrian commission is different, calling for the immediate closure of both reactors.

The Czechoslovak commission recommends to place V-1 on a special regime until the end of this year. Meanwhile, a decision is to be made on whether to reconstruct the plant to allow its safe operation possibly also after 1995.

The V-1 plant is the oldest in Czechoslovakia, having outdated Soviet equipment. That is why it has aroused massive opposition in neighborly Austria which is strictly antinuclear. The problem is the present nuclear reactors there are another two at Jaslovske Bohunice's plant V-2, and another plant is at Dukovany, South Moravia now account for 25 per cent of the aggregate electricity generation in Czechoslovakia, and the share of nuclear power is to further grow. Thus far Czechoslovakia has been generating the bulk of electric power at thermal power plants which, however, are responsible for huge ecological damage.

Austria has recently offered to supply to Czechoslovakia some electric power to compensate for the loss which the shutdown of Jaslovske Bohunice would inflict upon the country. However, Czechoslovak Deputy Economy Minister Jan Jicha told the seminar that Austria can provide a mere 100 megawatts, and this only to the Czechoslovak border. (There are no lines crossing the Czechoslovak-Austrian border.) The remaining amount to fully compensate for the Jaslovske Bohunice capacity would have to be bought by Austria also from nuclear power plants in France, Germany or the Soviet Union, Jicha said.

Parties Believe StB Collaboration No Crime

LD3101163591 Prague CTK in English 1515 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 31 (CTK)—Eight Czechoslovak political parties pointed out today that cooperation with the now disbanded StB (secret service) was never considered to be a crime.

In a statement, sent to President Vaclav Havel, parliament chairman Alexander Dubcek and chairman of the parliamentary commission investigating the events of November 17, 1989, which led to the downfall of the communist regime, the People's Party the Self-Government Democracy Movement-Society for Moravia and Silesia, the Greens Party, the Obroda Club, the Socialist Party, Farmers' Movement, Agrarian Party and the Social Democratic Party said that the credibility of information obtained during the vetting and the credibility of bodies carrying out the vetting at present is questionable. The parties are of the opinion that the vetting of any persons must be preceded by his or her consent, provided they have not committed any crime.

The parties think an optimum solution is to pass legislation making possible to screen at least persons in the most important posts, whilst the mechanisms of vetting must be ensured by independent institutions, namely courts. In the present circumstances the whole matter threatens to discredit Czechoslovakia in the eyes of the whole world, the parties said.

VPN Leader on Screening, Relations With OF

AU3101180691 Prague CTK in English 1537 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Bratislava Jan 28 (CTK)—"I think it would be an enormous mistake to begin implementing vetting in all spheres of society as it would only lead to an escalation of tension", said leader of Public Against Violence (VPN) Fedor Gal today.

"On the other hand it is unacceptable for people who are proven collaborators of the former secret police, StB, to sit in the highest institutions of this state, in the parliaments and governments", added the leader of the strongest political movement in Slovakia at the weekly VPN briefing.

Gal said both VPN and the Civic Forum [OF] had taken upon themselves an enormous responsibility that cannot be diminished by changing (the Civic Forum two weeks ago) from a movement into a party.

VPN would like to make a coalition agreement with the Civic Forum, based on the task of preparing and accepting a new Federal Constitution. The terms of the agreement would be publicized in order to allow public surveillance of the contract, said the VPN leader.

Spokesman Comments on Possibility of Censure Vote

AU3101180391 Prague CTK in English 1531 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Prague Jan 28 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Presidential Spokesman Michael Zantovsky said here today that President Vaclav Havel never attached weight to the possibility of a vote of censure being passed on the federal government and considered rumors to this effect to be an unimportant incident.

Information appeared in the parliament lobby last week, according to which attempts were made to reorganize the Czechoslovak Federal Government in favor of the right center forces. Whilst part of the Czechoslovak political scene rejected this information as unfounded, part indicated that the mentioned efforts have a real foundation. Zantovsky said the incident should be clarified in parliament.

Referring to the possibility of the transit of Soviet troops withdrawing from Germany through Czechoslovakia, Zantovsky said the president believes that the transit would not be suitable just now. As far as the possibility of a later transit is concerned, the best thing is to refer to a statement of Czechoslovak Government representatives who stressed that any transit through Czechoslovakia is possible only under strictly fixed contractual conditions and with the consent of Czechoslovak constitutional bodies, said Zantovsky. He added that Czechoslovakia has not received an official request for the transit so far.

Reacting to questions concerning the nervousness of Czechoslovak citizens over the first expressions of economic reform and the president's attitude, Zantovsky said Vaclav Havel supported "radical and speedy economic reform with the least possible delays." He himself believed that it is not yet a matter of mass opposition and that economic reform is supported by the majority of the population both in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

1,600 Joint Ventures Authorized in Country

AU3101154091 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 29 Jan 91 p 2

["(DO)" and "(JOP)"-signed report: "The Tenth Attempt"]

[Text] Foreign investment in the CSFR was the subject of yesterday's tenth meeting of a section of the Czechoslovak Economic Forum which was held in the Central Institute for National Economic Research in Prague. We found out that, to date, approximately 1,600 joint ventures have been authorized in the CSFR, that an agency for coordinating the acceptance of foreign investments and assistance (one at the federal level and two at the republican level with Slovakia as an independent entity outside the ministry—how could it be otherwise) offers advice to foreign investors, and that foreign capital will soon enter the Czechoslovak economic scene.

An employee from Price Waterhouse's Prague office explained foreign investors' hesitation by citing notoriously well-known facts: Uncertainty about the political-legislative, economic, and ethical spheres.

Text of 'General Agreement' on Employment

AU3101134791 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 29 Jan 91 p 7

["General Agreement for 1991," signed by representatives of the governments, employers, and trade unions in Bratislava on 28 January]

[Text] The Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, the Government of the Czech Republic, and the Government of the Slovak Republic (hereafter called "the governments"); the Coordinating Council of Unions and Associations of Entrepreneurs of the Czech Republic and the Coordinating Council of Unions and Associations of Entrepreneurs of the Slovak Republic (hereafter called "the employers"); and the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions, the Confederation of Art and Culture, the Czech-Moravian Chamber of the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions, and the Confederation of the Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic (hereafter called "the trade unions") have concluded the following General Agreement for 1991, in the interest of warding off social tension and achieving social consensus.

Part I

General Provisions

Article 1

1) The General Agreement is based on Czechoslovak legal regulations, conventions and recommendations of the International Labor Office, and other international documents and is binding for the parties to the agreement.

2) The General Agreement defines obligations, especially in the field of employment policy, wages, and social and legal guarantees. The parties to the agreement will safeguard the implementation of the adopted commitments within their area of responsibility so that the rights and duties arising from the General Agreement apply to all employers and employees.

Article 2

1) The conditions agreed upon in the General Agreement are binding for collective agreements at all levels as minimal or maximal, depending on the respective rendition of the agreement.

2) The General Agreement does not provide for individual claims of employees.

Article 3

Proposals of legal regulations related to the implementation of commitments arising from the General Agreement will be discussed in the governments, or submitted by the governments for discussion in legislative bodies, only after a consensus on them has been reached in the respective Council of Economic and Social Accord or the Council of Social Accord. Proposals of legal regulations related to all other questions having an impact on the working and social conditions will be discussed by the governments, or submitted by them for discussion in legislative bodies, only after previous discussion in the pertinent Council of Economic and Social Accord or Council of Social Accord.

Article 4

The parties to the agreement undertake to provide one another with the requisite socioeconomic information; this also applies to collective bargaining at all levels.

Article 5

The parties to the agreement undertake to guarantee respect for trade union rights, particularly the right of free association and the right of collective bargaining, in harmony with legal regulations and regardless of relations of ownership and the origin of capital.

Part II

Employment Policy Issues

Article 6

Active employment policy

1) The government and the employers will safeguard the preparation and financing of state and company employment programs, the implementation of state and other retraining programs, and, if necessary, the establishment of state retraining centers.

2) Representatives of trade unions, employers, and special interest organizations of cooperatives cooperate with labor exchanges, financial authorities, and communities with the aim of drafting and contributing to the implementation of programs of regional entrepreneurial activities and employment programs arising from them.

3) The governments will provide, by means of legal regulations, for the respective state bodies' the possibility to extend financial support (such as grants and reimbursement of paid interest) to job seekers who decide to work as private entrepreneurs as their main occupation.

4) With the intention of having an active employment policy, approximately 25 percent of the financial resources appropriated for unemployment in the budgets of the republics will be earmarked for the needs of financing retraining programs, creating new jobs, supporting small business, and organizing public utility projects in the republic.

5) Collective agreements for 1991 will establish the detailed procedures for laying off employees for organizational reasons and hiring new staff.

Article 7

Material Provisions for Job Seekers

1) A job seeker laid off for organizational reasons who has not succeeded in acquiring suitable employment through the labor exchange or retraining will receive in the first six months an unemployment benefit amounting to 65 percent of his average net monthly earnings in his previous job. In the subsequent six months he will receive an unemployment benefit amounting to 60 percent of these earnings. If the termination of the contract of employment occurred for other reasons, the unemployment benefit will amount to 60 percent of the above earnings for a period of one year. These benefits will be indexed.

2) An employee whose contract of employment was terminated for organizational reasons by means of a notice according to Article 46, section 1, letters a) to c) of the Labor Code, or whose contract of employment was terminated for organizational reasons on the basis of mutual agreement, will either:

a) receive from the organization that releases him a severance pay of twice the average gross monthly earnings in the organization concerned the last time it was calculated,

b) or the collective agreement can provide for the payment of an additional severance pay of up to three times the average gross monthly earnings in the organization concerned the last time it was calculated.

Article 8

Generation of the Fund of Cultural and Social Needs

Employers establish a fund of cultural and social needs (social fund) amounting to a minimum of 2 percent of the annual volume of wages, if the employees demand the establishment of such a fund. The collective agreement will define the employers' and trade union bodies' share in decisions on the generation and use of this fund.

Part III

Wages

Article 9

Tentative [smerny] Growth of Wages and its Adjustment to the Development of the Cost of Living

1) The tentative growth of average nominal wages in 1991 provides information on the increase in wages that is acceptable from the viewpoint of the national economy, defines the scope for negotiations on the wages part of collective agreements, and determines the limit

beyond which wages are to be included in the costs of the entrepreneurial sphere that are regulated by means of a special levy.

2) The tentative growth of wages for the first quarter of 1991 compensating for the growth in the cost of living in 1990 will be fixed at 5 percent, respectively at 6 percent for the budget-funded sphere.

3) Should the average cost of living in the first two months of 1991 be more than 25 percent higher than the average cost of living in December 1990, the tentative growth of nominal wages for March 1991 will be raised, during the month of March, so that the decline in real wages in this month, corresponding to the increase in the cost of living in the first two months of 1991 and the tentative growth of average nominal wages, does not exceed 12 percent.

4) The tentative growth of average nominal wages for the subsequent quarters of 1991 will be adjusted to the increase in the level of the average cost of living in the preceding quarters as compared with the level of the average cost of living in December 1990. Account will be taken of the actual development of real wages in the preceding quarters and the tentative growth of average nominal wages fixed for the preceding period will be raised so that the decline in real wages does not exceed 10 percent in any one of these quarters.

5) Adjustments in the tentative growth of wages will be projected into the terms for the regulation of wage costs and other staff costs and into the terms for the regulation of wages in budget-funded and subsidized organizations.

6) The wages of individual employees will be adjusted to the growth in the cost of living in the course of the year by means of their adjustment carried out within the framework of the tentative growth of average nominal wages and under conditions set forth in collective agreements or in [other] agreements between employers and employees as well as in wage regulations—either by means of increasing the aggregate wages of the employee that are included in costs by a set percentage, or by means of increasing some components of the wages, or by means of a special supplementary payment included in costs. The increase or supplementary payment can be determined by means of a uniform rate that declines relative to higher wage brackets (the so-called decreased rate).

Article 10

Minimum Wage and Its Adjustment to the Development of the Cost of Living

1) Following up on the amendment of the Labor Code, the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic fixes a minimum wage with effect from 1 February 1991.

2) The minimum wage is 10.80 korunas [Kcs] per hour for a 42.5 hour work week for employees paid on the basis of hourly wages and Kcs2,000 a month for employees paid on the basis of monthly wage scales, provided that the set working hours were worked.

3) The employee has a claim to the minimum wage regardless of his work assignment, the activity he performs, his performance, and the employer's ability to pay.

4) If an employee's income does not reach the level of the minimum wage in a calender month based on the respective wage regulations or collective agreement, the employer is obligated to offset the difference. Supplementary payments up to the level of the minimum wage are covered from wage costs.

5) The minimum wage will be adjusted to the development of the cost of living so:

a) the level of the cost of living in 1991 in comparison with the point of departure (December 1990) will be assessed on a monthly basis,

b) if the average cost of living compared with the point of departure for which the current minimum wage was fixed increases by more than 5 percent, the minimum wage will be raised by 1 percent for every percent of the increase of the cost of living exceeding 5 percent.

6) For the purpose of adjusting the tentative growth of wages (Article 9, Sections 3, 4, and 6) and the minimum wage (Article 10, Section 5), use will be made of the cost of living index ascertained by the Federal Statistical Office. In applying this index, account will be taken of the influence of central nonwage compensations for price increases.

Article 11

The Wage System

1) On entering 1991, the validity of the existing wage system and of the legal provisions pertaining to it is being retained.

2) On the basis of the principles of the wage reform, the draft of a new wage system will be prepared for implementation:

a) for the entrepreneurial sphere by 31 May 1991,

b) for the sphere of budget-funded and subsidized organizations by 30 November 1991,

c) for budget-funded and subsidized organizations in the field of culture by 31 March 1991.

Part IV

Article 12

On the basis of the stipulations of this General Agreement, the parties to the agreement undertake to ensure social peace.

Article 13

The implementation of the commitments undertaken in the General Agreement and compliance with the conditions agreed in it will be subjected to quarterly scrutiny in the respective Council of Economic and Social Accord or Council of Social Accord.

Article 14

1) Any party to the agreement can propose negotiations on changing or amending this General Agreement. The other parties to the agreement are obligated to enter into talks on this proposal.

2) Before the General Agreement is changed or amended, the parties to the agreement are bound by the existing rendition of the General Agreement.

3) No amendment or change of the General Agreement will invalidate stipulations of collective agreements concluded on the basis of this General Agreement.

Article 15

This General Agreement comes into force with its signing by representatives of the parties to the agreement and is being concluded for the duration of the year 1991.

In Bratislava, on 28 January 1991.

Parties Oppose Civic Forum Grip on Media

LD3101223991 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Representatives of the Czechoslovak People's Party, Czechoslovak Socialist Party, Movement for Self-Administered Democracy, Society for Moravia and Silesia, Farmers' Movement [Hnuti zemedelcu], Green Party, Agrarian party, Obroda Club, and Czechoslovak Social Democracy issued a statement in Prague today concerning state mass media and the CTK. In it they voiced their profound dissatisfaction at a situation in which these media are under decisive Civic Forum influence. In their view, access to them is being made difficult and impossible to other political parties and movements. They demand that monitoring councils approved by political parties and movements be set up in Czechoslovak radio, Czechoslovak television, and CTK and that a law on state mass media and CTK, which would ensure complete impartiality, should be drawn up and endorsed as soon as possible.

Moravians Demonstrate Against Discrimination

AU3101152291 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 28 Jan 91 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "Moravian Demonstrations"]

[Text] Brno (from our own correspondents)—Demonstrations involving thousands of people held in the largest Moravian and Silesian cities on Saturday [26 January] demanded an end to the economic and financial discrimination against Moravia and Silesia and the establishment of a Czechoslovak Union Republic. In some places, the demonstrations were accompanied by emotional outbursts.

At Saturday's demonstration in Brno's Freedom Square, deputies from the Movement for Self-Governing Democracy-Society for Moravia and Silesia [HSD-SMS] criticized the activity of the Czech Republic Government and of the most senior representative organizations which have removed the problem of Moravia and Silesia from the agenda of the day. Representatives from a number of political parties greeted the assembly. J. Kalous, the new Czechoslovak Socialist Party [CSS] chairman in Brno, and J. Drapela, CSS deputy chairman, addressed the assembly on behalf of the CSS. They stated that the CSS fully supports equality for Moravia and Silesia as well as a union arrangement for Czechoslovakia.

Radical proposals for declaring civil disobedience toward Prague were added to the speeches citing facts and figures. The impromptu debate with Minister Dr. J. Sabata—who wanted to speak, but was shouted down by loudmouths in the crowd—was one of these outbursts, which do more harm than good to the movement's ideas.

People from Ostrava gathered in Masaryk Square around an improvised platform from which they were addressed by HSD-SMS speakers. The speech delivered by Federal Assembly Deputy Dr. V. Tomis, who summarized the motives leading to this event, met with a particularly stormy response. "We are not advocates of an exaggerated kind of nationalism, but we will not allow ourselves to be further discriminated against. We do not support those who express no confidence in the government, but we do want to make constructive criticism. The final outcome should be an equal republic with a union arrangement."

The demonstration in Upper Square near the Holy Trinity in Olomouc lasted for one and a half hours. A petition demanding justice in the budget and an autonomous Moravia was signed on the spot by approximately 4,000 people.

'Equal Status' Demanded

AU0102105391 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 28 Jan 91 p 2

[CTK report: "In opposition to the Discrimination against Moravia and Silesia"]

[Text] A total of 4,000 signatures were collected on the petition—the sheets could not hold any more—during the demonstration opposing discrimination against Moravia and Silesia that took place in Olomouc. Like the sheets spontaneously sent from enterprises and cooperatives, they support Moravian and Silesian self-administration, including self-financing. They demand land [province] arrangement [in the republic] by the early part of 1991 and the formation of a Union Republic of Czechoslovakia [Spolkova republica

Czesko-Slovensko] with an equal status for Moravia and Silesia by 1992 at the latest.

Pithart Comments on Demands

AU3101161891 Prague SVOBODNE SLOVO in Czech 28 Jan 91 p 4

[Interview with Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart by M. Valka in Blansko, Moravia on 25 January: "Prime Minister Pithart Comments on the Demands by Moravia"; first paragraph is SVOBODNE SLOVO introduction]

[Text] As a result of circumstances, on Friday [25 January] a meeting of the Moravian District Civic Forum centers took place. Our correspondent M. Valka asked Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart several questions.

[Valka] What is your impression after these several hours of discussions? Were you present in Brno in December 1989 when Vaclav Havel said that Moravia will have as much autonomy as it manages to gain through fighting? You have said many times yourself that Moravia is harmed mostly by its disunity....

[Pithart] The separation of Moravia from Brno and Silesia persists. I was convinced that a substantial consolidation of Moravian Civic Forums opinions will occur here, but it does not look that way. Although one opinion is dominant. Nevertheless, Brno and Silesia still have different ideas, a certain degree of discord remains.

[Valka] The union arrangement [of the Republic] has not been discussed much....

[Pithart] True, and I expected that many more people would comment on that than have done so until now.

[Valka] At the same time, Mr. Meciar declared that Slovakia is aware of the growing importance of Moravia. One could interpret his words as saying that Slovaks would not oppose a tripartite federation, that they are only waiting for proposals from Bohemia. Is he frank about this?

[Pithart] You must ask him right away. The word was uttered, and it is not the only voice from the highest echelon of the Slovak political representation. So I am willing to take it quite seriously.

[Valka] It is more surprising how little this opportunity is discussed here in Blansko. I have the feeling that if the television broadcast this debate, the Civic Forum would lose lots of votes in Moravia.

[Pithart] I would not be so sure. The local elections do not support such a claim, but this certainly will not be the only assembly which we will follow closely. We have to take opinions into consideration, to solicit them at all the Moravian and Silesian assemblies.

[Valka] Recently, a discriminatory budget for Moravia has been frequently mentioned both orally and in print, and now a Civic Forum representative takes the floor claiming it is demagogy. Is it not too much to swallow? What do you think?

[Pithart] You may be aware of the fact that as a deputy I made a motion, passed by the Czech National Council, that a certain sum of money be raised by withdrawing 1 percent in the individual districts, and that the obtained sum of 720 million [currency not specified] be used in dealing with some injustices, which are, I believe, quite obvious and particularly concern the city of Brno. I share the Moravian concerns but am not one of those who are convinced that the exploitation of Moravia can be expressed to three decimal places. That is economic nonsense and demagogy. Of course, it is true that the budget was prepared by criteria assumed from the past years. However, nothing else was possible. The regional national committees were not terminated until the election time and then it was too late to prepare the budget using any other method; therefore, I moved that a sum be raised to compensate for the greatest wrongs, as I mentioned already.

[Valka] These wrongs should not be repeated....

[Pithart] In the next term, the subsidies to districts will be distributed differently.

[Valka] Mr. Prime Minister, you do understand the upheaval in Moravia regarding this issue?

[Pithart] Yes, I understand it. Very much so. It provides a basis for demagogues to whom people like to listen.

Slovak, Federal Legislatures' Relations Viewed

AU3101115591 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 28 Jan 91 p 3

[Jan Fuele commentary: "Does the Slovak National Council Create a Nuisance or Does It Do Its Work?"]

[Text] The situation of the representatives of the federal government in the Slovak National Council is not enviable. They present proposals that they know in advance have only a small chance of being passed. Yet, at the same time, they know quite well that this "provincial" legislature—as they perceive the Slovak National Council to be—has only a small impact. Otherwise it could not have happened that the draft law on the Constitutional Court—which, despite the personal presence of Pavel Rychetsky at the debate, received no support from either the Constitutional and Legal Committee or the Slovak National Council Presidium—is still debated in a lively way in the committees of the Federal Assembly. It is understandable that even the Czech National Council's comments pursue the idea that the Constitutional Court should have a smaller jurisdiction than the republican governments. Besides this, both national councils demand the establishment of three constitutional courts. In the Constitutional and Legal Committees of the Federal Assembly, Pavel Rychetsky said that the existence of three constitutional courts will

be possible only if their jurisdictions do not overlap. If this were the case, however, would they be still needed? Mr. Rychetsky said that if their jurisdictions did overlap, we would need four Constitutional Courts—the fourth one would have to decide disputes between the remaining three.

Despite the fact that the Slovak Government did not approve it on Tuesday [22 January], the Federal Assembly continues to work on the draft law on the declaration of the state of emergency. Despite the fact that work on this draft law began a long time ago, the need to pass this law in the Federal Assembly has been explained as a need to solve extreme situations that pose a danger to the state—such as Saddam Husayn or the situation in the Baltics. If we study the draft more closely, we can see even more facts emerge. The Slovak National Council has not supported the draft regarding the increased powers of the president. According to the aforementioned law, in a state of emergency the president has the right to order the Army to jointly cooperate with the police, to restrict the movement of citizens, to prohibit gatherings, to suspend the activity of civic associations, and to restrict the right to strike. All this can be applied on the condition that the state is directly threatened from within, if there is an apparent and forcible violation of the constitutional order, or if there are circumstances that pose a danger to human lives, health, or important economic values. This formulation, however, leaves enough room for maneuvering.

The 13th joint meeting of the CSFR Federal Assembly will begin tomorrow. Today, it is not clear yet whether the aformentioned draft constitutional laws will be debated. This is quite characteristic of the existing form of our federation: If these laws are not debated, it will be because of the numerous comments raised in the Federal Assembly and not because the National Councils have not approved these laws. The deputies from the Czech National Council and from the Slovak National Council—who try their best to pass responsible opinions on all Federal Assembly draft laws—are in an unenviable position, because it seems that no one takes them seriously. It would be incorrect, however, to think that the fact that they have rejected many drafts means that they are purposefully being a nuisance.

Weiss on Slovak Political Scene, Meciar's Role

AU3101153291

[Editorial Report] Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech on 25 January on page 3, under the headline "Slovakia Without Communists?," carries a 1,500-word interview with Peter Weiss, chairman of the Communist Party of Slovakia-Party of the Democratic Left, by Martin Komarek.

Komarek asks Weiss if Slovak Communists—in view of the fact that they have decided to change their party's name—are not somehow "criticizing" their Czech and Moravian comrades. Weiss denies that Slovak Communists are trying "to teach anyone anything," adding that this situation has arisen on account of the "diverse political spectrums in the Czech lands and Slovakia."

According to Komarek, "an irreconcilable dispute between the Civic Forum [OF] and the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) is being waged in the Czech lands." He maintains that in Slovakia, Weiss' party is "considerably" more loyal to government policy and that the Public Against Violence (VPN) movement is "much more left-wing" than OF. He asks Weiss for his opinion of the Slovak government and of the "much discussed" Prime Minister Meciar.

Weiss states that the Slovak Communists are functioning in different conditions than the KSCM. He asserts that "in Slovakia there is a much more developed political scene and that waves of anti-Communism were not so strong and recurrent there as in the Czech lands." In Weiss' opinion, "the VPN maintains a central position while the Christian Democratic Movement plays a right-wing role." He claims that Slovak Communists are "trying to act like a constructive opposition, not because we would like to be loyal, but because the Slovak nation has higher interests. Such as, for instance, in the jurisdiction law issue when I unequivocally supported the point of view adopted by Prime Minister Meciar." Weiss accuses the mass media in the Czech Republic of having an a priori image of Slovak political representatives and states that, at the moment, Prime Minister Meciar is "an important integrative element in Slovak political life."

Asked if he could foresee a scenario in which Slovakia would become an independent state, Weiss replies that "a rather large group of OF deputies would like to get rid of Slovakia as an unpleasant encumbrance." He adds that his party acknowledges "federative principles and, if a nation's right to self-determination is to be respected, then the new Czech and Slovak Constitutions should include the right to leave the federation by legal means."

Meciar on Bilingual Education in Ethnic Regions

AU3101120891 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 28 Jan 91 pp 1, 2

[Alena Melicharkova report: "The Turns and Twists of the Political Stage"]

[Excerpt] The state of education in the ethnically mixed regions of Slovakia was one of the main issues on the agenda of Saturday's session of the Slovak Republic Government. Only one educational institution exists in many ethnically mixed regions of Slovakia, despite the fact that these regions have a sizable number of citizens of two nationalities.

In the 11 regions concerned, there are 68 communities with only a Slovak and 113 with only a Hungarian school. Therefore, some children of Slovak nationality are being educated at schools in the minority language of instruction and vice versa. Prime Minister Meciar commented on this, saying that the parents in ethnically mixed regions should have the opportunity to freely

decide in which language their child is educated. To ensure this right, however, will require investment and better preparation of the teachers. Measures are being prepared, according to which teachers will have to pass certification examinations in which they will, among other things, prove their ability to teach in both languages. [passage omitted]

Slovak National Democrat on Movement's Policy

AU3101162891 Bratislava SMENA in Slovak 28 Jan 91 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Peter Brnak, Slovak National Democratic Movement chairman, by Jan Felix; place and date not given: "A New Boat in Slovak Politics"; first paragraph is SMENA introduction]

[Excerpts] A new boat sailed out from Bratislava's House of Shipyard Workers on Saturday [26 January] evening. After six months of preparations and a few hours of discussion, the new movement has elected its chairman whom we know as an independent deputy of the Slovak National Council. [passage omitted]

[Felix] Recently, many people tried to push, or even to bend Slovakia to its knees. Each Slovak is fed up with the parties and movements from which he can select. Why, and in which direction, do you want to push Slovakia?

[Brnak] The existing spectrum of nationally oriented political forces does not provide sufficient guarantees to nationally minded Slovak fellow citizens. The pragmatic view on the self-determination of the Slovak nation and on the question of its further existence is a certain disappointment. As long as there is no political group whose main goal is to assert the interests of Slovak citizens, we will try to be active as a unifying element within the existing structure, yet we do not assume the right to be an umbrella organization.

[Felix] What is the main goal of your endeavor?

[Brnak] The supreme form of each nation's self-realization is its own state. Under existing conditions, this idea has been denigrated and tabooed. In my opinion, however, no reactionaryism—or any other "ism" used to label such movements— is involved here. In any democratic country our goals are considered to be quite normal. As long as the Slovak nation has no state of its own, we cannot speak about a nation as such but only about people; that is, about a sort of an amorphous layer in the society. Our goal, then, is a full and complete identity of the Slovak nation.

[Felix] What should be the first steps?

[Brnak] There are two of them: the Declaration on the Sovereignty of the Slovak Republic and the adoption of the Slovak Constitution. The Declaration is a frequently misunderstood point because it is automatically associated with some kind of a state and legal arrangement between Czechs and Slovaks. This is not our case. Sovereignty is not the goal but only a means for achieving this arrangement. We have examples of this in the Baltic republics and Yugoslavia. [passage omitted]

[Felix] What does Slovakia need today or tomorrow?

[Brnak] The main thing is unity. Of course, the most important questions pertain to the material sphere. The inevitable prerequisite for solving the economic reform in Slovakia is the declaration of Slovakia's sovereignty. Only then will it be possible to fully solve any problematic situation in our life.

Defense Ministry on Croatian Weapons Affair

AU0102085691 Budapest MTI in English 1926 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, 30 January (MTI)—It is somewhat unusual to publish an exchange of letters between the ministers of defence of two neighbouring countries, Colonel Gyorgy Keleti, spokesman of the Ministry of Defence, said. Keleti was responding to an article published in a Yugoslav newspaper, carrying the letter of Veljko Kadijevic, Yugoslav federal secretary for national defence, addressed to his Hungarian counterpart.

According to the article, the federal minister requested information on whether the Hungarian ministry had approved the delivery of Hungarian weapons to Yugoslavia. (The newspaper, and the letter, mentioned the deal as a fact.)

Colonel Keleti said: Brigadier General Vuleta Valetity arrived in Budapest on 30 October, 1990, bringing with him a letter to Hungarian Minister of Defence Lajos Fur from his Yugoslav counterpart. The Yugoslav general received a reply the following day, on 31 October. In the document, Minister Fur informed Veljko Kadijevic that the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Hungary had no foreign trade rights, pointing out that only the authorized foreign trade companies have such rights. A decree by the Hungarian Government regulates the arms trade, and the issue of related necessary permits. According to this, in the event of political conditions existing, the Ministry of International Economic Relations is sanctioned to permit individual deals. The Ministry of Defence neither directly manages nor controls this foreign trade area.

Last year, the Hungarian minister also reported that the national headquarters of the customs and excise officials could provide information on deliveries by other countries through the territory of the Republic of Hungary, but only if the contents of the delivery appeared on the accompanying documents.

Later on, the Yugoslav minister questioned his Hungarian counterpart through the military attache, to clarify matters still more. Detailed answers were given in a short space of time.

Romania's Attempts at 'Guest Status' Supported

LD3101231791 Budapest MTV Television Network in Hungarian 1830 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Hungary has supported Romania's request for a special guest status [kulonleges meghivotti statusz] in the Council of Europe.

Jozsef Bratinka, member of parliament for the Hungarian Democratic Forum said that according to the Hungarian delegates, although the Romanian report submitted on the Bucharest events of June leaves very many questions open, the Hungarian side wants to avoid the impression that it would hamper Romania's effort to get closer to the Council of Europe on account of bilateral problems. The Hungarian representatives sincerely hope that gaining special guest status will also contribute to the strengthening of democracy in Romania.

Joint Agreement on Education Signed With Romania

AU0102090291 Budapest MTI in English 1548 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, 30 January (MTI)—An inter-ministerial cooperation agreement was signed for 1991-1993 by Gheorghe Stefan, Romanian minister of education and science, and Bertalan Andrasfalvy, Hungarian minister of culture and education, in Budapest, on 30 January.

According to the agreement, the two sides are to promote the exchange of information between the two countries, sending each other basic educational documents, syllabuses, and textbooks.

The two ministries will keep one another informed on new history, geography, and literature textbooks, for discussion and comparison of the two countries.

The agreement was signed as a result of the two ministers' talks in Budapest, from 28 to 30 January.

The two sides listened to each other with patience and understanding. The talks have been characterized by soberness and tolerance, the spokesman of the Hungarian Ministry of Culture and Education, Peter Lang, stressed.

For years, there has been no such thing as an intergovernmental or even inter-ministerial cooperation plan between the two countries, even though education was always one of the burning issues, the spokesman stressed.

Speaking about Bolyai University in Kolozsvar (Cluj), Gheorghe Stefan said that these days, there were 140 courses with lectures in Hungarian, compared to the 68 previously.

Stefan said he was satisfied with the work and conditions in Hungary's schools for the Romanian minority. As for the education of the Hungarian minority living in Romania, he promised to promote Hungarian-language education in future.

Soviet Troop Withdrawal Proceeds on Schedule

LD3102195291 Budapest MTI in English 1841 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, January 31 (MTI)—The Soviet troops and military personnel scheduled to leave Hungary by the end of January have now left the territory of Hungary, MTI has learned from the Ministry of Defence.

The Soviet side has clarified the number of railway carriages it will be needing at the end of June, the dadline for the completion of the pull-out, and the monthly

pacing of the deliveries. Accordingly, some 350 troops and goods vans will be necessary to implement the full troops withdrawal.

Resolutions on Soviet Withdrawal, Budget Delayed

LD3101135491 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Now, the scene is the Interior Ministry. Simultaneously with the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, the coordination of the financial issues is also continuously on the agenda, but not without its ups and downs. Because of this, Agnes Pap reports from a rather uneven news conference:

[Pap] It is not so easy to satisfy the evidently reasonable criterium that the financial and economic qeustions of the Soviet troop withdrawal should be agreed on with mutual regard for each others interests. The nearly 100 Soviet and Hungarian experts who have been negotiating since the beginning of the year were supposed to have prepared the draft agreement for today; it was to be considered at government levels that would contain the financial claims of the Soviet and Hungarian partners. This is now not expected to be ready before the end of the week. The only information that leaked from the strictly confidential discussions—behind closed doors—was that the delay is not due to the Gulf war. During the interval of the negotiations the radio reporter [not further identified] was told that troop withdrawals are progressing according to agreement and that the last Soviet soldier and equipment will leave the country by the end of June, and that this negotiation will not influence the utilization of Soviet real estate left behind.

Goncz Meets With U.S. Secretary of State Baker

LD3101192291 Budapest MTI in English 1908 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Washington, January 31 (MTI)—Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, held talks with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, in Washington on Thursday.

According to MTI's information, reliable sources say that the secretary of state showed profound interest at the private meeting concerning Hungary's home affairs situation, which dwelt upon the economic aspects. The Hungarian president gave a detailed report on the development of the democratization process, and outlined the country's economic problems. Mr Baker ensured President Goncz that the United States is aware of the difficulties of the central and eastern European states, and is making efforts to assuage these. The countries participating in the Gulf coalition, including the oil producing countries, wish to make a concerted effort in the support programme. Baker also noted the increasing significance of the East-Central European region.

The occasion for the meeting was the traditional "prayer breakfast" of American legislature, attended by many prominent figures of American and international political life.

President George Bush welcomed the participants, among them Arpad Goncz, in a brief speech.

Bank Official Reports Further EC Grants

LD3101121791 Budapest MTI in English 1106 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, January 31, 1991 (MTI-ECONEWS)—The Group of 24 industrial countries is expected to grant 500 million USD in credit to Hungary later this year, Frigyes Harshegyi, deputy president of the National Bank of Hungary, informed newsmen today. Mr Harshegyi has recently been in Brussels for talks on the subject with ECOFIN, the Council of EC Finance Ministers. It was agreed that the EC would make the second, 260 million ECU, tranche of its 870 million ECU Credit to Hungary available in the second half of February.

Hungary has recently announced that it will need another credit worth 700 million USD. G-24 officials, however, deemed 500 million USD [U.S. dollars] reasonable since Hungary's economic situation is not as bad as had been forecast. This credit arrangement is part of the credit programme Hungary has coordinated with the IMF for 1991, under which Hungary intends to obtain external credits totalling 4.5 billion USD this year.

G-24 representatives feel that Hungary has adapted more rapidly than expected to foreign economic changes and to the affects of oil price rises.

Hungary needs the credit in order to increase its foreign exchange reserves, a precondition of extending forint convertibility and estalishing the planned interbank currency market. The increase in hard currency reserves is also necessary because, since January 1, East European trade has been conducted in hard currency and Hungary thus requires larger reserves to be able to tide over periods between incoming and outgoing payments.

The credit talks were initiated by the IMF which also represented Hungarian interests on the subject before the G-24. The 500 million USD credit line was finally agreed upon following an IMF proposal. Of the 500 million USD credit, 250 million will be granted by the EC. The credit arrangement and its technical management still depend on agreements to be reached at further talks.

MSZMP Chairman Thurmer Holds News Briefing

Opposes NATO, Calls For Gulf Peace

LD3101224291 Budapest MTV Television Network in Hungarian 1830 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] We have no business being in NATO; we forecast long ago that the Gulf war will last longer than expected;

we condemn the land repossessors; we have asked the minister of the interior to take more resolute steps against them; and we are on the side of the milk producers because of the government's bad agricultural policy.

These are some of the slogans from the press briefing of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] held today. The real eyebrow-raiser was then served up by MSZMP Chairman Gyula Thurmer when he called on the Chirstian Democratic People's Party to support the Pope's plea for peace in the Gulf.

Criticizes Land Repossessions

LD3101224591 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The chairman of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] has urged the freezing of milk and bread prices. At a news briefing, Gyula Thurmer has also criticized the arbitrary [oenkenyes] land repossessions that are increasing in number in the villages. As he said, the mood in the provinces is bad, a proportion of the people is dissatisfied and restive not only because of the forcible land repossessions, but also because by slaughtering pigs and cattle—which farms are forced into doing by their circumstances—the producers are in practice consuming today their livelihood for tomorrow.

Minority Roundtable Organization Formed

LD3101190191 Budapest MTI in English 1718 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, January 31 (MTI)—The Hungarian minority organizations have set up the Roundtable of Hungarian National and Ethnic Minorities. The aim of the consultative, interest coordination forum is to promote the creation of a law to fundamentally change the future of the minorities.

The Roundtable was set up by the Amalipe Gypsy Culture and Tradition Promotion Union, the Federation of Croats in Hungary, the Federation of Germans in Hungary, the Gypsy (Romany) Parliament of Hungary, the Federation of Romanians in Hungary, the Federation of Slovaks in Hungary, the Federation of Slovenes in Hungary, the Phralipe Independent Gypsy Organization, and the Democratic Federation of Serbians. According to representatives of the orgnizations, the bills which have been forwarded to the minority organizations for discussion to date have tended to overlook certain basic interests of the minorities, omitting the most important guarantees enforcing minority rights.

Environment Minister Queried on Radioactive Waste

AU3101143091 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 26 Jan 91 pp 1,5

[Interview with Environmental Protection Minister Sandor K. Keresztes by Ferenc Hajba on 25 January; place not given: "Search for Radioactive Waste"; first three paragraphs are NEPSZABADSAG introduction]

[Text] Following in the footsteps of Vienna and Bratislava, on 25 January, Gyor was the meeting place for the building experts who are discussing various planning and development ideas concerning the Hungarian-Austrian-Czechoslovak border.

Sandor K. Keresztes spoke about the ecological duties involved in border cooperation. Commissioner Gyorgy Samsondi Kiss outlined the future profile of the area surrounding the Nagymaros water dam project, and Etele Barath, commissioner in charge of the planned Budapest-Vienna world exhibition, gave details of the philosophy behind Expo 1995.

Our correspondent in Gyor interviewed Sandor K. Keresztes during one of the breaks of the meeting.

[Hajba] According to the Austrian daily DIE PRESSE, a Hungarian enterprise has offered to take over 5,400 barrels of radioactive waste. How could the Environment Ministry give permission for this?

[Keresztes] In no way could it have given permission for this. I was also informed about this incident through press service reports on the DIE PRESSE article. On Thursday, 24 January, I asked Hungary's ambassador to Vienna to gather some official information from the Austrian Health Ministry, which was also mentioned in the DIE PRESSE article. For our part, we immediately began investigating the Hungarian enterprise to which DIE PRESSE could be referring. So far, our investigations have been fruitless, and we have not received any official information from Vienna, either.

[Hajba] Could radioactive waste already have been transported into the country, behind the back of the Environment Ministry?

[Keresztes] This is impossible, both from a theoretical and a legal point of view.

[Hajba] From a practical point of view, illegally?

[Keresztes] I do not think so. Even if the signing of such a contract had escaped our attention; in accordance with international agreements, our customs officials would not have allowed dangerous waste material into Hungary.

[Hajba] Where could radioactive waste be stored in Hungary?

[Keresztes] There are temporary storage units in Paks and Borzsony for radioactive waste of small and medium activity. In connection with the closure of the Mecsek coal mine, we are looking for possibilities to store radioactive waste of a larger amount and greater activity. This investigation will also let us know whether Hungary is in a position to establish a new nuclear power station from an environmental point of view.

[Hajba] Unfortunately, Hungary also produces its own radioactive waste. Environmentalists in Ajka are demanding stricter measures than ever before to protect their town from the pollution of a nearby thermal power station. What is your opinion on that?

[Keresztes] It is true that the refuse from the power station is mostly radioactive. The amount of refuse produced by this power station does not constitute a danger in the short term; however, the modern storage of this refuse is actually an unsolved problem. In the near future, the Environmental Protection Ministry will deal with the safe storage of waste material from power stations.

[Hajba] According to MAGYAR HIRLAP, your ministry is not in the hands of experts—the newspaper bases itself on talks with the parliamentary faction of the Hungarian Democratic Forum. How do you reply to that statement?

[Keresztes] I am slowly getting used to the fact that every week, rumors spread about my dismissal. It is a well-known fact that I have had disputes with certain representatives of the Green movements in this country. The main reason behind these disputes is the fact that the Greens fail to recognize that our ministry cannot work with the same methods as movements, and that goals can only be reached on the basis of compromise.

[Hajba] Has anybody officially told you that your ministerial position is in danger?

[Keresztes] No.

Economic Relations Official Views Future Prospects

LD3101192691 Budapest MTI in English 1902 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, January 31 (MTI)—The foreign economic evaluation of Hungary is far more favourable than the picture which we have formed of ourselves, Janos Martonyi, secretary of state of the Ministry of International Economic Relations, said at his press conference on Thursday.

Martonyi reported on the conference which took place in Brussels with the participation of the 24 industrialized countries, addressing the issue of the provision of aid to the central and eastern European countries.

The secretary of state said the Hungarian delegation stressed that the switch to market economy should be accelerated, and, in Hungary, completed this year. Hungary closed last year with an export surplus valued at some 1,000 million dollars, and the current payments balance also shows a modest surplus. Trade with Comecon countries dropped from the former 50 per cent to below 30 per cent.

The countries of the European communities have become Hungary's most important foreign trade partners, jointly accounting for 38 per cent of trade.

Privatization of state property is progressing well, with 10 percent of the 2,000 state firms now privatized in part or in full.

Hungary's debt servicing this year will exceed the 4,000 million dollar mark. Experts regard this as just about bearable, with the debt servicing rate at 35 percent, extrapolating from exports valued at 12,000 million dollars.

Last year, foreign capital valued at some 500 million dollars was invested in Hungary. The European communities formed a highly favourable impression of the firms concerned, maintaining that the investment climate in Hungary is extremely auspicious.

All the conditions are now in place for the external financing of Hungary. This is plain from the loan package valued at 500 million dollars, which the G-24 [Group of 24] describes as more realistic for Hungary, as compared with the previously requested 700 million dollars.

Electricity, Bottled Gas Prices To Rise 1 Feb

LD3101140891 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1300 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpt] The price of electricity and bottled gas will rise tomorrow. The consumer price of electricity will be increased, on average, 50 percent, so it will be billed at this price at meter readings after 1 April. The population, in line with this, will feel the increase only in the June bill. More than 5 kg of bottled gas will become, on average, 80 percent more expensive. [passage omitted]

Milk Producers Protest Accumulated Surplus

LD3101121391 Budapest MTI in English 1123 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, January 31, 1991 (MTI-ECONEWS)—Thousands of milk producers have been holding demonstrations up and down the country today to protest against the uncertain future of milk production in Hungary. They distributed milk free to passers-by along their route to prove just what enormous surpluses of unsold milk have been accumulated. The day before the demonstration, they held talks with officials of various ministries, and, although being given promises that their situation would be eased, they got no concrete guarantees at all, Guyla Farkasdi, head of the committee that organized the demonstration, explained. One of the concessions they did get was that the export subsidy on milk has been raised from 30 to 35 per cent, and the maximum price of milk lowered by 1 forint to 21 forints a litre. The ministry of agriculture suggested that producers cut back production by 15 per cent. They will be given 10,000 forints for every milk cow they slaughter. But the dairy farmers were not given guarantees that they will definitely be able to seel even this reduced quantity

of milk. No mention was even made of whether or how farmers could become involved in privatizing the milk-processing industry.

At the moment, there are about 500 million litres of unsold milk in Hungary, a situation brought about mainly as a result of the heavy decline in consumption last year. In 1990, per capita milk consumption fell to 152 litres from the 171 litres in 1989, and the 200 litres it was a few years earlier. Hungary's 565,000 dairy cows produce 2.8 billion litres of milk annually.

A ministry of social welfare official said that from March 1, 1991, about 130,000 people will get milk vouchers worth 10 forints a day. The ministries of agriculture and welfare will together come up with the funds to buy about 20 million litres of milk this year. The needy can buy either milk or other dairy produce with their coupons. Milk tokens entitling the parents of children under 6 to buy milk for much cheaper than the shop price were abolished in the early 1980s. If these were to be revived, 870,000 children would be eligible. This would mean an expenditure of 3.2 billion forints, something which no agency can possibly shoulder at the moment.

Finance Minister Views 1990 Budget, Privatization

AU0102092691 Budapest MTI in English 1225 GMT 30 Jan 91

[Text] Budapest, 30 January (MTI-ECONEWS)—The deficit of the Hungarian state budget recorded in 1990 was 1.4 billion forints, far smaller than the expected 10 billion, Hungary's Finance Minister Mihaly Kupa told the press here today.

He said that the hard-currency exports of Hungarian companies grew by 14-15 percent in volume, and by 18 percent in dollar value, and they made far higher profits than predicted.

This meant that they also paid more profit tax into the budget, and this is the principal reason why the budget deficit is much smaller than expected.

In 1989, the budget deficit was 52 billion forints.

The planned deficit for 1991 is 78 billion forints.

The finance minister stressed that in 1990, Hungary's industrial output declined by 5 percent, and East European trade plummeted by 20-25 percent.

Small and medium-sized companies managed to make up for market positions lost by larger companies.

Last year, Hungary saw a veritable boom in new businesses.

At the end of 1989, 14,427 private ventures were registered. This number had soared to 23,257 by the third quarter of 1990.

The number of joint ventures grew by about 2,000 to an estimated 5,000, and new foreign working capital to the tune of $500 million came into the country last year.

Total capital investments now stand at approximately $1.2 billion.

Mr. Kupa said that the external judgment of the country is good, something which is also reflected by the fact that Hungary is the only East European country that can issue bonds on foreign capital markets.

The finance minister is confident that the country's economy can be safely financed during 1991.

Mr. Kupa said priority targets were now to bring inflation under control and to speed up privatization. Last year saw a consumer price inflation of 29 percent.

Spontaneous or market privatization was more successful last year than the slow and sluggish state-controlled process managed by the state property agency, the Hungarian finance minister told newsmen.

The strong criticism levelled at the State Property Agency (SPA) seems to confirm rumors that Mihaly Kupa wants to take control of the agency, the organization that manages privatization in Hungary.

In the Budapest daily MAGYAR HIRLAP, Lajos Csepi, head of the SPA, said that he was aware that the rumors were doing the rounds, but he considered it a dangerous step to bring the agency under the Finance Ministry's control.

He said it was all very well to criticize himself or the SPA's work, "....but the organization should not be stripped of its independence."

He added that he has not had the opportunity yet to go into this point in any depth with Mihaly Kupa.

Aid Convoy for USSR Turned Back to Germany

LD3101204591 Warsaw TVP Television Network in Polish 1830 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] A Soviet convoy numbering 208 military trucks has been waiting for transit in Germany in the vicinity of the Polish border crossing in Olszyna since 18 January.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] They are carrying gifts from the Evangelical Church for the Russian Orthodox Church, including 150 tonnes of food, 40 tonnes of medicines, 20 kitchens, and 100 tents. The fact that this is a military transport, that the drivers are soldiers, and there is also a lack of markings typical of the Red Cross, was the reason for the delay in granting permission for travel through Polish territory. The convoy, hitherto standing in Cottbus, approached closer to the Polish border this morning. The vehicles are now deprived of military markings and bear charity and Red Cross symbols. They are driven by persons in civilian dress. Talks regarding the course of the transit through Poland started at 0600.

[Unidentified speaker] The border guards and the customs office—we are ready at any moment to accept this transport and to clear it in a very short period of time.

[Reporter] This afternoon the convoy was at the border bridge at Olszyna, where it was turned back to Cottbus as it did not fulfill the conditions that had been set on vehicle registration plates, travel insurance, and the holding of international drivers licences by the drivers. [end recording]

Walesa Stresses Courts' Independence

LD3101184391 Warsaw PAP in English 1600 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—Polish President Lech Walesa handed over here today nomination acts to 66 judges of the Supreme Administrative Court, provincial and district courts.

We are building a new Republic, sovereign and fully democratic at last, Walesa said. Law-abidingness is the basis of democracy. Apart from legislative and executive power it is just independent courts that constitute the foundations of a fully democratic and law-abiding state, he added.

Free and honest citizens should have a feeling of complete security and an open way to promptly and efficiently claim their rights. The time has come for old harms to be compensated. One must finally square accounts with the past, the president stated.

Walesa Holds Meeting With Diplomatic Corps

AU0102095291 Warsaw PAP in English 2122 GMT 28 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 28—Polish President Lech Walesa held a new year meeting with the heads of over 80 diplomatic missions accredited in Poland in the Royal Castle here today.

Present were also Sejm (lower house) and Senate speakers Mikolaj Kozakiewicz and Andrzej Stelmachowski respectively, Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki, Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski and other cabinet members, senators, and deputies.

Addressing the participants in the meeting President Walesa said in part:

I am honoured to greet you in the new year as the first president of the Republic of Poland elected in free and democratic elections. The fact is a sign of changes going on in our country. We are building a new state, sovereign and democratic. We are laying foundations for a market economy. Poland aims at integration with the family of European states. We want to develop cooperation with them in all spheres. A lot of things are changing in our country and these changes should result in the admission of Poland to European institutions. Our country is ready to cooperate with states of all continents.

Referring to the latest developments in the Persian Gulf and the Baltic republics, the president said: We consider it our moral duty to be at one with those whose independence is endangered. We want solidarity and not violence to prevail in international relations. We want a peaceful solution to all conflicts and problems troubling the world.

President Walesa thanked all who supported Poland in her historic transformations and conveyed best wishes to all states and nations.

Walesa 'Will Not Allow' Anti-Semitism

LD3101183891 Warsaw PAP in English 1518 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—The press office of the Polish president published here today a communique on yesterday's meeting of Lech Walesa with a delegation of the "Bnai Brith International," a Jewish organization, headed by its president Kent E. Schiner.

During an hour long meeting, President Walesa stated that as long as he has something to say he will not allow for anti-Semitism in Poland. No Christian can be a anti-Semite, the communique quoted the president as saying.

The Polish president stressed the importance of the economic cooperation and encouraged Jewish businessmen to establish business contacts with Poland.

Discussing the Persian Gulf crisis and new threats emerging in this connection, the president said that Israel has a friend in Poland. Stressing the importance of the use of peaceful methods in solving conflicts, Lech Walesa said that he will firmly oppose to the escalation of aggression.

The sides decided to organize an exchange of youth from both countries.

Head of Presidential Advisory Committee Appointed

LD3101190291 Warsaw PAP in English 1709 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—President Lech Walesa has appointed Wojciech Wlodarczyk plenipotentiary for the organization of a presidential advisory committee.

So far, Wlodarczyk was a secretary of the Citizens Committee.

Bielecki Appoints Bylinski To Head Rural Council

LD3101140391 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1105 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Interview with Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki by Marek Kasa; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki today handed Janusz Bylinski the nomination for chairman of the Rural Development Council.

[Kasa] Mr. Prime Minister, what do you expect from the Rural Development Council?

[Bielecki] I would like to emphasize, above all, that my expectations are like the ones defined in the resolution of the Council of Ministers; in other words, it is an institution serving the development of the countryside. Thus, one could even risk saying that we are more interested in what there will be in the countryside and in what directions the changes will move than the present state of things. This is also related to the execution of the 1991 budget. We have, for example, 1.7 billion [currency not specified] more in money, which one must know how to spend appropriately. If that expenditure is carried out as it has been up to now—that is, by a general subsidy, for example, to credits, or the general subsidizing of fertilizers—then it is easier for the state to help the development processes. When we have a more dedicated or distinctive way of having an influence, the greater the importance will be of the question of infrastructure, the way of utilizing the means. Thus, we also agreed with Mr. Bylinski on the subject of the first meeting, where we want to consider the absorbtion of means resulting from the new agricultural policy prepared by Minister Tanski.

Sejm Demands Revocation of TV PAP Ruling

LD3101184591 Warsaw PAP in English 1735 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—Today PAP received a copy of a letter sent by the parliamentary Committee for Culture and Mass Media to Chairman of Radio and TV Committee Marian Terlecki in connection with the recent conflict between the two media.

The letter read, in part: "The Sejm Committee for Culture and Mass Media was greatly concerned with a TV report that the director of TV information programmes issued an order for the editors subordinated to him not to use the information conveyed by the POLISH PRESS AGENCY on the air if it is not confirmed by other reliable sources.

"The committee is of the opinion that unacceptable is undermining of the credibility of an official government agency which the POLISH PRESS AGENCY is by another government institution whose task is to broadcast news. [sentence as received]

"TV information programmes use—without restrictions of this kind—reports coming from various sources, including press agencies of other states.

"The Committee for Culture and Mass Media expects the decision made by the director of information programmes to be immediately cancelled and TV spectators to be informed about this."

ROAD, Democratic Union Unity Said Necessary

AU3101123291 Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 28 Jan 91 p 2

[Interview with Jerzy Turowicz, head of the Krakow-based Alliance for Democracy, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] [SZTANDAR MLODYCH] The main, if not the most important problem facing the Citizens Movement-Democratic Action [ROAD] Congress is to finalize the relationship between itself and the Democratic Union, headed by Tadeusz Mazowiecki. Is this question—to merge with the Democratic Union or to remain a separate party—sufficiently important to call a congress?

[Turowicz] I do not think this is a secondary problem at all. It is absolutely crucial to finally decide whether the camp of the democratic forces is to stand in the upcoming parliamentary elections as a united force or divided into its various parties. We have many reservations about the model of presidential rule that is emerging, and we still do not know whether parliamentary elections will be earlier or later. If we want to emerge victorious, we have to reach an understanding among all of our constituent forces.

[SZTANDAR MLODYCH] What are the pluses and minuses of ROAD and the Democratic Union merging?

[Turowicz] A great plus would be the creation of a single democratic force that could politically mobilize the elites; otherwise, we will not be able to put a stop to the worrying tendencies now appearing in the state. A negative factor is that while ROAD is a party with a recognizable form, program, and membership, the Democratic Union has no real structure. As one of the joint creators of an earlier organization called Alliance for Democracy, I believe today's Democratic Union allied with ROAD and the Forum of the Democratic Right would pick up the ideals of that movement. That is why I am for unity.

[SZTANDAR MLODYCH] Will ROAD's "leftist" tendency prove to be an insurmountable barrier?

[Turowicz] In my opinion, ROAD is a typical center grouping, although a part of its membership sees itself as left of center and a smaller part, as right of center. I imagine that internally in the united structure we would present the views of the individual factions, but in matters of national importance we would present a united front.

Democratic Union Comments

LD3101222391 Warsaw PAP in English 2115 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—The development of democracy in Poland demands creation of broad, internally pluralistic, political formations, the Presidium of the Democratic Union said in a statement conveyed to PAP today.

From this point of view we receive with satisfaction the resolution of the Citizens Movement-Democratic Action ("ROAD") endorsing the beginning of the unification process and allowing double membership in 'ROAD' and the Union until the unification, the statement reads.

Commenting on the statement, Secretary General of the Democratic Union Piotr Nowina-Konopka said at a press conference today that it would be most efficient to start the unification procedure from local levels, from joint elections of delegates for the unification congress. The congress should be held as soon as possible, he opined.

Asked about Zbigniew Bujak's faction that had emerged at the "ROAD" congress, Nowina-Konopka described it as social democratic and hence unpopular in the Union's circles.

The Democratic Union however should function in such a way as to give the floor to various programmatic factions, he added. He also announced that leader of the Union Tadeusz Mazowiecki is to begin regular meetings with supporters of the party as of February 2.

Center Alliance Sets Up Liberal-Democratic Forum

LD3101190391 Warsaw PAP in English 1737 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—The Centre Alliance has decided to create under its auspices a liberal-democratic forum.

In a declaration released today, the alliance expressed an opinion that the liberal-democratic orientation has a vital role in the systemic transformations of the state and economy.

"We are of the opinion that in the process of transition from communism to democratic capitalism there is a need for an active role of liberal circles, which, in alliance with democratic and centre-right political forces, strive for the creation of a parliamentary-presidential democracy and a market economy," reads the declaration in part.

Attends Conference

LD3101194891 Warsaw PAP in English 1839 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Krakow, Jan. 31—Over one hundred members of the Center Alliance is [as received] taking part in a two-day national conference of Christian-Democracy which started here today.

The conference is one of the most important meetings held in advance of the congress of the Centre Alliance, scheduled for March. It has been organized together with a Dutch Christian-Democratic party, and discussed, among other things, the future organizational shape of the Centre Alliance.

Jaruzelski Meets Democratic Left Leaders

LD3101184191 Warsaw PAP in English 1543 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski met with the Presidium of the Democratic Left Caucus (PKLD) today with a view to discussing the left's support for transformations deciding about Poland's future, granted despite the fact that its views are often disregarded in this respect, the PKLD reported.

PKLD Chairman Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz told Jaruzelski that readers expected his memoirs to be written quickly and to significantly supplement the knowledge of Poland's recent history.

OPZZ To Protest Excess Wage Tax

LD3102222591 Warsaw PAP in English 2039 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—The deadline for starting talks on the excess-wage tax between the government and the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions (OPZZ) passed on January 31, said OPZZ Presidium in a resolution adopted at an extraordinary meeting here today.

The governmental side pledged to start talks with OPZZ on January 23.

As OPZZ chapters demand abolition of or radical amendments in the law on excess wage tax, the OPZZ Presidium resolved to launch all-Polish protest action by hoisting flags on enterprises as of February 12.

On February 15 unionists from all Poland are to stage a demonstration in Warsaw.

Plans for Radio, TV Stations Outlined

LD3101232891 Warsaw PAP in English 2250 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 31—Some 270 applications to set up commercial radio and TV stations have already been filed with the Ministry of Communications both by private persons as well as by Polish and foreign companies, Vice Minister of Communications Marek Rusin told a press conference here today.

The allocation of broadcasting frequencies for radio stations is to begin in March, and for private TV stations a month later, he said.

The ministry has already started to introduce changes in the use of radio and TV frequencies. In the next five years TV channels 1-5 are to be liquidated and thus a psosibility will be created for the functioning of two commercial TV channels in Warsaw. This also depends on the possibility of giving up Soviet TV broadcasts, Rusin informed the conference.

All the currently undertaken efforts aim to create the possibility for the functioning in the central parts of Poland of 1-2 networks of long-range and medium-range radio stations and 10 short-range stations, and as far as commercial television goes, a similar number of long-range and medium-range stations and 6 local stations. There are plans to increase the number of commercial TV and radio stations throughout Poland by the year 2000.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Holds News Conference

Opposes UN Security Council Meeting

AU3101180291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1652 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/1/1991—The Romanian Government continues to hold the view that the UN Security Council should not gather in an official meeting to debate the Gulf crisis as it would lead to nothing specific, stated at his weekly news conference the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Traian Chebeleu.

In his opinion the Security Council's official meeting should effectively contribute to nearing the fulfillment of the exigencies set under the Council's resolutions, that is Kuwait's freeing, the Iraqi troops' withdrawal from Kuwait and the re-establishment of that country's independence and sovereignty. In Romania's opinion, no initiative that would be taken by the Security Council could replace Iraq's undertaking to withdraw from Kuwait. The Security Council's meeting might create confusion with public opinion, might evince the states' various approaches to the way of applying the Council's resolutions and would affect its unity in matters referring to international legality and observance of international law, Mr. Traian Chebeleu mentioned.

We would like to welcome the point made in the joint Soviet-American declaration published during the Soviet foreign minister's visit to Washington, which shows that the U.S.A. would put an end to the military action in the Gulf if Iraq unequivocally undertook to withdraw from Kuwait.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman also announced that a last team of 13 Romanian experts from "Rompetrol-Geomin", who chose to stay in Iraq, were evacuated once the hostilities started, now being en route to the country. Quite recently the last four representatives of "Arcef" firm were also evacuated from Baghdad upon their request. Still, five experts from "Romelectro" and other two Romanian citizens who have individual contracts with an Italian firm operating in Iraq chose to remain there. Referring to the situation of the 35 Romanian sailors who, after bringing two ships and giving them to the United Arab Emirates on the basis of individual contracts concluded with a local firm, encountered difficulties to return to the country, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said that starting February 1 they would be repatriated according to the timetable of available flights.

Views Human Rights Observance

AU3101174891 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1711 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/1/1991—Informing that the agenda of the UN Human Rights Commission includes a report on the observance of these rights in Romania on the basis of the resolution adopted as early as March 1989 and that the report is to be discussed by the Commission starting 15 February, the Foreign Ministry's Spokesman Ambassador Traian Chebeleu made the following points:

The conclusions of the special report drawn after several visits to Romania are, in our opinion, equilibrated and optimistic. The report asserts from the very beginning that in Romania human rights are better observed, but this process has just begun. Except [for] the 13-15 June 1990 events which it considers a serious case of violation of human rights, the report notes that most of human rights have been re-established and observed.

As far as ethnic minorities are concerned it notes the improvement of the situation of the Hungarian ethnics, but also their claims, improvement opposed by a notable part of the Romanian ethnics who see the granting of a special treatment an inadmissible privilege. The report notes the existence of feelings of suspicion and even hatred and expresses the opinion that an atmosphere of peace and confidence must be created.

The report assesses that the population is still intolerant, suspicious and distrustful, without blaming the authorities for that. In many cases concerning accusations made by Western mass media the report shows that it cannot express any opinion about them. The report recommends the commission to note that, despite regrettable recurrences, in Romania human rights are being better observed, and the Romanian authorities to further guarantee human rights, de facto and de jure, and resort to UN Consultative Services especially to the end of the creating a Human Right Institute, a Documentation, Research and Information Center, which Romania has already done.

Iliescu Continues Official Visit to Italy

Statements Before Departure

AU3101180091 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1659 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/1/1991—Thursday morning Romania's President Ion Iliescu accompanied by the foreign and culture ministers, by other officials left for an official visit to Italy where he would meet with President Francesco Cossiga, Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, with other officials, party leaders and businessmen. Romania's president will also pay a visit to the Vatican.

In a statement made before leaving Bucharest on the Otopeni Airport, the president appreciated that his visit to Italy, the first top-level visit to a western country, had a special significance.

It is not by chance, Mr. Iliescu said inter alia, that the first top-level visit is to Italy, a country which we feel very close to our souls owing its entire history and our cultural relations. I have seen with great pleasure the spirit of solidarity the Italian people manifested for the Romanian revolution, for the Romanian people. The Italian officials, the Italian Government have been close

to us during this difficult period for Romania and have consistently supported us within European organisms. Therefore, this visit represents an opportunity for us to voice the feelings of friendship linking the two peoples as well as a moment of new openness in the relations between our countries. On the one hand, to consolidate the rich spiritual traditions between our countries and, on the other hand, to lay the bases of the development of economic, political, scientific, cultural relations. Both sides show a real interest in making use of this new openness, Mr.Iliescu said in conclusion.

Meets De Michelis in Venice

AU3101210791 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2010 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Rome, ROMPRES, 31/01/1991—Thursday [31 January] afternoon Romania's President Ion Iliescu arrived in Rome coming from Venice for a three-day official visit, Mr. Iliescu's first visit to a country of the European Economic Community.

Thursday morning Mr. Iliescu went to Venice to inaugurate an exhibition of Romanian paintings in the Palace of the Doges. There he was received by [Italian Foreign Affairs Minister] Gianni de Michelis who stated to the journalists that Italy and Romania intended to conclude a bilateral agreement on political and security issues comparable to the Italian-Soviet agreement signed in November 1990 in Rome.

At the end of an interview with the Romanian president, De Michelis also emphasized "the complete convergence of the points of view between Rome and Bucharest, especially on the Gulf crisis which both capital cities are following with similar concern."

Italy understands "to keep supporting" Romania within the large international organizations, Gianni de Michelis added addressing to the Romanian president in front of the journalists.

Friday morning Mr. Iliescu will be received by Pope John Paul II and, in the afternoon, he will hold a press conference at the end of his official visit to Italy.

* National Liberal Party Organ on Gulf War

91P20123A Bucharest VIITORUL in Romanian 25 Jan 91 pp 1, 2

[Article by Horia Florian Popescu: "Uncertain Prospects"]

[Excerpts] Iraq is shaken by explosions. The beginning of the allied offensive aiming at the liberation of Kuwait from the occupation of the Iraqi invaders was spectacular. [passage omitted] The response of Saddam's troops was anemic, almost nonexistent. Optimists concluded that there would be a rapid victory. [passage omitted]

It is clear that Saddam cannot win in the military confrontation with the allied forces, even if the Soviets and other friends, who, in the not too distant past, had high regard for the absorption capacity of the Iraqi market and armed the Iraqis to the teeth. Kuwait will be liberated. Saddam will be removed from the leadership of the country which he has driven to ruin. These are the certitudes, the constants of the allied intervention.

However, there are a number of parameters whose development cannot be predicted; the existence of the state of Israel; the offensive of Islamic fundamentalism in the zone and, perhaps, in the world; the anti-American attitude of the Arabs, the Latin-Americans, and, of some of the European allies; the expectant attitude on the part of Moscow and the tense internal situation in the Soviet empire; the fragile equilibrium in Europe after the unification of Germany and the liberation (partial, in places) of the East European countries from totalitarianism.

The establishment of the state of Israel triggered an immediate reaction of rejection from the neighboring Arab countries. From 1948 to the present, the Middle East has been in a continuing state of war—in various forms from terrorist attacks to full-scale battles. The stake is placed in the area of religious belief. Israel has a poor territory, but, through work and inventiveness, it has been transformed radically. The Jews have been able to get water on their land, even from dry rock. Israel has had a nostalgia for a Greater Israel, which involves a displacement or subordination of the Arabs, but, because of actual conditions, it has had to postpone the fulfillment of the dream. The majority of the Jews only want to obtain the assurance of their existence and peace. The Arab populations—I do not believe in the existence of an "Arab nation"—have carried on an unrelenting struggle for the dissolution or the annihilation of the state of Israel. If one were to collect all the statements made on this subject during the past 40 years, one would have a colossal library.

The war in the Gulf does not concern Israel and it was not started by the Jewish state. When he invaded Kuwait, Saddam was not thinking about the Jews and about the creation of a Palestinian state. However, when he was cornered because of his political mistake, he put this argument into play and it caught on. Iran knows that Saddam is lying when he says that he went into Kuwait to force the resolution of the Palestinian problem; Iran is convinced that Saddam is an impostor when he calls for a Jihad—an Islamic holy war against infidels, unbelievers, especially Jews, but also Christians and especially the Americans and the British. Iran is certain that Saddam will be defeated and that Iran will become, after the war, the number one Islamic force and it expects to export the Islamic revolution to Kuwait and Iraq, first of all, and then to Saudi Arabia, the emirates—countries with anachronistic regimes—Jordan, etc. Even the secular Arab states—Egypt and Syria—will not be exempt from fundamentalist effervescence.

If the Jews, provoked by repeated attacks by Saddam Husayn, retaliate, which is almost inevitable and is perfectly justified, the Islamic world will consider itself to be engaged in a holy war. They will allow or discreetly help the allies to

liberate Kuwait and to defeat Saddam. However, the allies' liberation troops will have to leave the Gulf area rapidly, allowing the Muslims to restore order. It remains to be seen what kind of order this will be. The fear of King Husayn of Jordan in regard to the prospect of losing his throne is visible. The same holds true for Hassan II of Morocco. The Jewish state will be forced to live surrounded by intractable enemies. Like in the time of King David. It is hard to call such a state peace.

The Americans initiated the offensive against Saddam, convincing their allies in the United Nations. But they will not be the ones to wear the laurels of victory. Anti-American feelings—which are, in reality, nothing but envy at the wealth of ingenious and very industrious people—will increase in intensity and will extend their radius of action. At home, there will be a tally of the costs and the human casualties, which will reduce George Bush's chances for a second term.

The Soviet Union has offered to rebuild the Gulf area after the conflagration ends. Formally, it has joined the allies, but without any military involvement. The same holds true for the former Soviet satellites in Eastern Europe, as well as reunified Germany and Japan. Reconstruction means markets for sales and it is not hard to see that the Soviets hope to have a priority. The oil-rich zone of the Gulf will be transformed into an arena for bitter economic competition among states which, prudently, have kept out of the war and have let others do the dirty work. If the Soviets succeed in obtaining priority on the sales market in the Gulf, they will restore the economy but under conditions of returning to dogmatism and dictatorship, and the East European countries will be threatened by the risk of dependence on the Russian commercial and industrial spigot. It is hard to imagine what will happen to the political systemns in the East European countries after the war in the Gulf.

Deliberately, I have not mentioned the possibility that Iraq might use chemical, bacteriological, or, if it has them, atomic weapons. If a single explosion in Chernobyl had such terrible consequences over such large areas, it is hard to imagine what would happen in Europe and in the world in general, if the hypothesis mentioned were to become a reality. The war in the Gulf might bring an illusory peace and a devasting end to the millenium.

Government Meeting Adopts 'Crisis Program'

AU3101211291 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2023 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 31/01/1991—Thursday afternoon Romania's Government gathered in its usual weekly meeting under Prime Minister Petre Roman's chairmanship.

In the conditions of an aggravated deficit in Romania's trade and payments balance, of lower natural gas imports and of the impact of the Gulf crisis upon Romania's availability to obtain oil, the government approved a "crisis programme" including all possible situations (even the hypothesis, for example, that oil imports are completely interrupted) as well as the actions to be taken, at the national economy's level, to diminish the serious consequences of the current crisis situation upon the productive activity and the use of work force In this context the members of the government adopted the final form of the resolution concerning measures to motivate economic agents in rationally using natural gas, electric and thermic power, both by bonuses and by severe punishments up to a four time increase of the approved price in cases of large excesses of set quantities.

During the meeting the members of the government also examined several bills before submitting them for approval. Some of the draft normative acts were approved, others were rejected as having been insufficiently substantiated or not correlated with the reforms programme in its ensemble.

Concern Expressed Over Youth Wanting To Emigrate

AU3101141391 Bucharest DREPTATEA in Romanian 23 Jan 91 p 1

[Mihaita Toader article: "Mass Emigration of Students"]

[Text] There is much talk about the exodus of young people. I learned from a television program that 25,000 students of Bucharest higher education institutes are determined to emigrate and do not wish to finish their studies.

This fact should indeed worry the government.

Unfortunately the leadership does not take any measures. Maybe it is believed that we will not need enlightened minds because the government team is and will continue to represent the most intelligent minds in Romania.

We, however, cannot be so limited as to believe that the relative freedom in which we have been crawling daily since the revolution is the ideal of the young generation. We cannot be so square-headed as to ask what else these people really want when meat and sausages are not rationed nowadays?!

As long as we continue to be poor in a rich country and continue to live with lies and hatred and as long as real values are spoiled by false values young people will continue to leave this country.

What can hold you back in a country where life is as miserable as before, where lies and demagogy—wrapped in sophisticated expressions—are the prerogative of governors and dialogues between the country and its leaders are only pitiable monologues.

* Law on Ministry of National Defense

91BA0229C Bucharest VIITORUL in Romanian 19 Jan 91 p 3

["Text" of "Law on the Organization and Operation of the Ministry of National Defense"]

[Text] Romania's Parliament adopts the present law:

Chapter I

General Dispositions

Article 1—The Ministry of National Defense [MND] is the central organ of the executive branch that organizes, oversees, and coordinates defense activities aimed at ensuring Romania's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and its constitutional order.

Article 2—MND ensures that the laws, decrees, and decisions of the government and the decisions of the country's Supreme Defense Council are implemented in the course of its activities.

The defense minister is answerable to the government for all the ministry's activities, and as a member of the government he is also answerable to Parliament.

As a member of the Supreme Defense Council the minister of national defense is also answerable to that body.

Article 3—MND will cooperate with the ministries and other state bodies and organizations within the exercise of its duties.

Chapter II

Organization and Operation

Article 4—The MND is overseen by a minister. The minister is assisted by the Army's Higher Military Council in a consultative capacity.

Article 5—The minister oversees all the activities of the ministry and represents it in its relations with the government, the other ministries, other state bodies and domestic organizations, and with similar foreign organizations.

The minister issues orders and instructions within the exercise of legal provisions.

Article 6—The minister is assisted in the exercise of his duties by a secretary of state who is also the chief of staff and deputy minister by law, and by three-four state secretaries.

The organizational structure of the MND is approved by the government and features: the General Staff, departments, directorates, the minister's cabinet, commands, inspectorates, sections, bureaus, and compartments. The secretary of state and chief of staff, the secretaries of state, and the department heads are appointed by government decision.

Article 7—The Army Higher Military Council is made up of: secretaries of state, corps commanders or heads, army commanders, commanding officers of central directorates, corps inspectors, the head of the legal compartment, leading cadres, experts with great experience and high qualifications, and other army personnel designated by the minister of national defense.

The chairman of the Army Higher Military Council is the minister of national defense. In the minister's absence, the chairman's duties will be carried out by the chief of staff.

The activities of the Army Higher Military Council will be based on regulations approved by the minister of national defense.

Article 8—The MND personnel is made up of military and civilian personnel.

Article 9—The duties and operation of units belonging to this organizational structure as per Article 6 paragraph 2 will be approved by the minister of national defense.

Article 10—The following bodies will operate within the framework of the MND: a Procurement Council, a Higher Council of Military Education, a Technical-Economic Council, and a Scientific Research Coordination Commission. Their organization, duties, and competencies will be approved by the minister of national defense upon the proposal of the chairman of the respective council or commission.

Article 11—The MND may have in its structure autonomous administrations, clubs, athletic associations, and cultural-artistic groups.

Chapter III

Duties

Article 12—The MND will fulfill the following specific duties:

a) Carry out the tasks incumbent on it regarding the implementation of Romania's defense system;

b) Examine and propose measures to ensure the country's defense capability and the operational preparedness of the land, and implement the draft plan on the use of the army in case of war;

c) Ensure permanent combat and mobilization capability of the army and train reservists; monitor, supervise, and guide preparations to mobilize the country's economy at all levels with a view to ensuring the country's defense needs on an ongoing basis;

d) Ensure the defense of the country's territorial integrity, including its air space and territorial water; organize and ensure the defense of the state borders;

e) Ensure the implementation of the plan of cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior in connection with the intervention and missions of the units, including the use of weapons, ammunition, and combat equipment for guarding and defending important installations on the national territory, and maintaining and restoring legal order;

f) Presents or advises on, when necessary, regulations in force and drafts of normative acts.

g) Man the army with the military and civilian personnel required to fulfill its duties;

h) Maintain relations of cooperation with the defense ministries of other countries in the world; ensure, through its military attaches, Romania's military representation in relations with the armies of the states with which Romania has diplomatic relations;

i) Support the activities of other ministries and state bodies and of economic units of interest to national defense, and at the same time monitor the manner in which the latter fulfill their legal tasks in this area;

j) Together with other ministries, state bodies, and economic organizations, ensure armament procurement for the army, modern military equipment, buildings, and material as required to feed and house the troops;

k) Approve, within the scope of its competence, the technical-economic documentation for investment projects and monitor their completion on schedule;

l) Oversee, guide, and coordinate foreign trade activities involving imports of military materiel and appropriate technical assistance, and activities concerning exports for military purposes and the related documentation;

m) Cooperate with ministries and other state bodies to produce military equipment;

n) Establish norms for the use, maintenance, and repair of weaponry, military equipment, and other materiel and for the planning, material and financial resources, bookkeeping, records, and control of the material and cash resources required by the units belonging to it;

o) Fulfill duties regarding the organization and operation of civil and territorial defense in Romania;

p) Decide the organization and operation of honorary trial panels for deviations from the norms of military dignity committed by members of the regular army;

r) Take the necessary measures, in accordance with the regulations in effect, to requisition materiel and mobilize citizens for services in keeping with the needs of the army;

s) Oversee and guide military education, establish and organize military highschools and military schools for specialists and noncommissioned officers, training centers, and training and specialization courses;

sh) Approve the establishment, deployment, and redeployment of units in times of peace up to and including brigade level;

t) Establish equivalence for military studies abroad and in the country for the purpose of integrating the respective cadres in positions for which organizational schedules require certain studies; establish the criteria for equivalence among various military schools and issue equivalence certificates accordingly for the use of the army;

ts) Establish military regulations and instructions required to train army personnel; bring out publications and studies concerning army activities;

u) Coordinate and guide research and design activities in units belonging to it;

v) Fulfill any other duties envisaged by law.

Article 13—MND has by law the right to solicit and obtain from central and local state bodies and from private and corporate persons data, information, or documents required for the exercise of its duties.

Chapter IV

Final Dispositions

Article 14—For the purpose of the present law, "army" refers to MND troops.

Article 15—By law the MND will provide medical care and social assistance, pension funds, and social security rights for military personnel, their families, and their heirs.

Article 16—MND has its own fleet of vehicles for the central apparatus and its other units, which is specified in the organizational schedules of the units.

Article 17—The law provisions concerning the organization and operation of ministries apply accordingly to the army, unless differently stipulated in the present law.

Article 18—Decree No. 444/1092 on the organization and operation of the MND will be abrogated on the date of enactment of the present law.

This law was passed in Senate at its 17 December 1990 session.

Speaker of the Senate, Academician Alexandru Birladeanu

This law was passed in the Assembly of Deputies at its 18 December 1990 session.

Chairman of the Assembly of Deputies, Dan Martian

In accordance with article 82 point m of Decree-Law No. 92/1990 on the election of the Parliament and president of Romania, we promulgate the Law on the Organization and Operation of the Ministry of National Defense and order its publication in MONITORUL OFICIAL of Romania.

Ion Iliescu, president of Romania

Bucharest, 18 December 1990

No. 41

Presidency Meeting Continues on Federal Situation

AU3101170991 Ljubljana Radio Slovene Network in Slovene 1430 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The second round of the expanded session of the SFRY Presidency continued in Belgrade this morning. We have learned some details on the session, which is still under way:

After the events that have recently excited the entire Yugoslav and world public, and the Croatian population in particular, the expanded session of the SFRY Presidency opened with a debate, which was full of conflict, on everything that has happened concerning the relations between the Yugoslav People's Army [JNA] and individual republics.

Representatives of Croatia and Slovenia demanded that the position of the JNA and its role in seeking possibilities for adopting a new historic agreement should be discussed at today's session. During the debate about that matter, one could hear quite contrary stands about the contents and aims of the information that the Federal Secretariat for National Defense announced recently in the form of public announcements or in other forms. Similarly, the participants of the expanded session of the SFRY Presidency presented considerably different assessments of the letter that Croatian President Dr. Franjo Tudjman sent to U.S. President George Bush.

(?After a debate last night), the SFRY Presidency decided at its expanded session today that the problems and open questions concerning the role of the JNA in any further political agreements should be discussed at the next session of the Federal State Presidency, but with the regular number of participants. Until then, all documents should be collected on what happened during the past several days, so that the basis for the debate does not consist only of the documents prepared by the Federal Defense Ministry.

The member of the SFRY Presidency from our republic, Dr. Janez Drnovsek, was one of the participants in the debate today who demanded a continuation of the debate, due to which the session had in fact been convened.

After the debate had lasted more than one hour, Federal Executive Council President Ante Markovic presented the contents of the talks with the presidents of the republican executive councils and the Federal Government's proposals, which should present a foundation for the functioning of the federal state until the agreement on the new form of community is adopted.

It is to be expected that on the basis of the results of the talks among the representatives of the individual republics held so far, the SFRY Presidency should continue the debate on the next moves and steps in the afternoon.

Discussion on Political Future Unlikely

LD3101210191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1952 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—President of the SFRY Assembly Slobodan Gligorijevic, Federal Executive Council [FEC] President Ante Markovic and all the presidents of the republics, that is, the presidents of the republics and autonomous provinces, took part in the work of the SFRY Presidency's session today, presided over by Presidency President Borisav Jovic. As the SFRY Presidency Information Service reports, the ongoing work to consider the country's political future, initiated on 10 January this year, was on the session's agenda.

Since the SFRY Presidency's session will resume with the same agenda on 8 February, no statement was issued from today's session. To inform the public about today's work, the presidency Information Service notes that at the session of the SFRY Presidency held on 10 January this year it was agreed that all the propositions presented at this session be considered in the republics before the next session of the SFRY Presidency, that attempts should be made at devising possibilities of harmonizing mutual opinions on controversial issues, and that a certain number of meetings between the republic leaderships should be held to the same end.

Today's session of the SFRY Presidency was expected to examine the agreed stages of the work so far and to set out the remaining controversial issues as well as the way to work in the future on their clarification and solutions.

Before embarking on the agenda, some issues were presented regarding the role of the Yugoslav Peoples' Army, something that resulted in different opinions, an issue which the SFRY Presidency could not adopt a stance because of a lack of information. This is why the SFRY Presidency decided to formulate its view on this at one of its following sessions, once it has sufficient information.

It was also remarked that the round of talks between all the republics is yet to be completed, contrary to what was earlier agreed.

Although the majority were in favor of continuing the discussions today without conditions, the SFRY Presidency did not examine the political future of the country, because complete agreement was not reached.

At today's session, the SFRY Presidency considered a report from the FEC on certain activities relating to ensuring the more efficient functioning of the system in the transitional period until the conclusion of an agreement on the political future of the country, the preparation of which was also agreed upon at the SFRY Presidency session of 10 January.

The SFRY Presidency was informed that in the talks between the FEC and the executive councils of the

republics, agreement was reached on seven key issues on which the functioning of the country in this period depends.

It was agreed that until the next session, which will be held on 8 February, when discussion will continue on the political future of the country, the talks should continue between the republics and the FEC, with the recommendation that maximum efforts should be made to reach agreement on the remaining contentious issues; whether economic and social life will be able to continue in normal conditions—and thereby also agreement on the political future of the country—depends on this to a great extent.

The SFRY Presidency assessed that in the efforts so far to prepare the ground for unravelling the Yugoslav crisis, certain results have been achieved that should not be underestimated, both regarding the clear definition of the stances of individual republics and the endeavors to clarify and reconcile them in reciprocal talks. It is expected that the further course of the talks between the republics and autonomous provinces in the coming week will contribute more to this.

The SFRY Presidency also considers that the measures being taken for the creation of general conditions regarding the functioning of the financial, monetary, legal, and overall social system are of great importance for the successful conduct of these talks.

Daily Views Talks Between Republics

AU0102101591 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 26-27 Jan 91 p 3

[Veselin Simonovic article: "Nothing Like Togetherness"]

[Text] The Yugoslav crisis must be resolved in a peaceful and democratic way. Was this conclusion the only one over which there was no disagreement at the bilateral meetings that have been held so far by the presidents of the Yugoslav republics? Reading the announcements from these meetings and taking them as a whole, the answer to this question would certainly be affirmative. However, among the individual republican leaders there are even some not inconsiderable similarities in views of the future denouement of the Yugoslav drama. Perhaps the greatest surprise so far has been that the views of Alija Izetbegovic (Bosnia-Hercegovina) and Slobodan Milosevic (Serbia) on the setup of a new Yugoslavia have more in common than those of Izetbegovic and Franjo Tudjman (Croatia).

Changeable Borders

The greatest harmony of views was manifested in the talks between Slobodan Milosevic and Momir Bulatovic, president of the Presidency of Montenegro. The announcement after these talks shows that the socialist authorities in these two republics do not actually disagree over anything: "Changes should be made in a legal way through Yugoslav institutions with the aspiration of preserving Yugoslavia as a unified federal state of equal peoples. The joint stand was stressed that the destiny of Yugoslavia can only be decided by the peoples of Yugoslavia who created it as a common state. The Serbs and Montenegrins want to live together, in one state, which should be organized as a democratic federation...." The Montenegrin government has, therefore, taken up the stand of the Serbian authorities that Yugoslavia's destiny can only be decided by the peoples who created it, which actually means that the Serbian people as a whole (and not only those living in Serbia) will be a partner in this negotiation process.

In line with this, Milosevic and Bulatovic treat all borders within Yugoslavia as administrative and, if Yugoslavia were to collapse, unavoidably changeable. The Liberal Alliance of Montenegro (which ran at the elections as part of the Alliance of Reform Forces) protested at this level of harmony in the views of the two presidents. The Liberals are opposed to any quasi- federation, and if Yugoslavia were to collapse, they advocate an independent Montenegro....

The complete identity of views of the Serbian and Montenegrin governments probably proceed from their ideological closeness. Had some other party won the elections in Montenegro, however, the basic stance concerning the future structure of Yugoslavia would not have been changed, at least not essentially. Had, for example, the coalition of reformists won, Montenegro's orientation toward a federation would probably not have changed, but Serbia would certainly have lost a faithful ally in daily political struggles.

What does Serbia gain from the total loyalty of the Montenegrin leadership in the future crossing of swords? Not all that much, because it is obvious that the time of simple calculations and counting republican votes ended a long time ago. In future talks, what will mean much more to Milosevic will be a closeness in views on basic issues concerning Yugoslavia's setup with Bosnia-Hercegovinan President Alija Izetbegovic. The delegations from Bosnia-Hercegovina and Serbia were united to this extent in their assessment that it was necessary to preserve Yugoslavia as a joint state of equal Yugoslav peoples. Milosevic and Izetbegovic also agreed that a future Yugoslavia would have to have a unified army, unified economic functions that guarantee business operations on market principles, unified bases of monetary policy with a central bank, a customs and taxation system, a single market. Serbia achieved such harmony in views only in talks with the fraternal Montenegrin authorities.

Bosnia-Hercegovina—Sovereign and Indivisible

To judge by the statements, the Bosnia-Hercegovina president did not, in any meeting, expressly come out in favor of either a federation or a confederation, but it is obvious that the Bosnia-Hercegovina authorities favor a federation. Therefore, perhaps it is not even surprising

that Izetbegovic and Tudjman did not agree on much. It is very important for Bosnia-Hercegovina, however, that they agreed at least on the idea that Bosnia-Hercegovina is sovereign and indivisible. There were even fewer or almost no similarities in the views of the Montenegrin and Croatian authorities. That is to say, their talks in Zagreb only showed that they agree only on the need for a peaceful and democratic denouement to the Yugoslav crisis.

From the announcement after the talks between the Slovene and Serbian delegations, which were led by Milosevic and Milan Kucan, it could also be concluded that they do not actually have similar views on any question that is important for the future setup of relations in Yugoslavia. These two delegations seem to have agreed on one thing: They should not stand in each other's way.

Macedonia Like Bosnia

Macedonia has so far not joined the bilateral talks because of the legislative crisis in that republic. Because no single party won an absolute majority, it is difficult to foresee with total certainty what this republic's stands regarding Yugoslavia's future setup will be like. Bilateral talks will probably be conducted on behalf of Macedonia by a president from the ranks of the League of Communists-Party of Democratic Transformation (Kiro Gligorov or someone else). This does not mean, however, that he, like his party, will be able to advocate a federation because the single strongest party in the Macedonian parliament is the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization, which supports a confederation. It could be concluded from the talks between Franjo Tudjman and this party's president, Ljupco Georgievski, that their stands were very similar. Because not one political party in this republic will be able to impose its stand on all the other parties, a compromise solution could be described as—something in between. (Considering the balance of political power in this republic, Macedonia could not be expected to advocate a strong confederal model). In this case, this republic's stands would be very close to the views of the Bosnia-Hercegovina president.

If, finally, we were to try to sum up what all the republican leaderships and governments have in common concerning Yugoslavia's future setup, the reply could only be—nothing. The conclusion, however, should not be drawn from this that no agreement whatsoever is possible because there are similarities in the views of at least four republics.

Tudjman, SFRY's Mesic View Controversies

LD3101214191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1926 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Statements by Croatian Republic President Franjo Tudjman and SFRY Presidency Vice President Stipe Mesic to reporters on their return from the SFRY Presidency session at Zagreb Airport; date not given]

[Text] Zagreb, 31 Jan (TANJUG)— Franjo Tudjman was quoted as saying that the meeting lasted from 0830 and that they left some time before 1600, when the proceedings were still underway, "because both had other engagements and also because they thought that any further talks in the same spirit would in fact be useless."

"A discussion on Yugoslavia's political future was on the agenda," said Tudjman. "At the very beginning of the session, Slovene Presidency President Kucan said that in his view there were no grounds for such a discussion, because it should be established whose view was represented in the document of the political bureau of the Federal Secretariat for National Defence, whether it was the view of the SFRY presidency or of the Yugoslav People's Army [JNA]. I spoke after him. I also reiterated this view and we both said that it had been envisaged that Federal Executive Council President Markovic should report on the outcome of his talks with republican governments."

"I said that for us in Croatia it is particularly important to clarify the JNA's role. You have no doubt all read and heard about—it has also been reported on— this document, i.e. the instruction that refers to the JNA aims, which explicitly advocates the transformation of the League of Communists, the Communist Party-Movement for Yugoslavia both institutionally and from the point of view of some members of the Army, which, it appears, exclusively supports the socialist order and the corresponding state system," said Tudjman. [sentence as received]

"I said," Tudjman went on, "that it is particularly important for us in Croatia to clarify whether this is the view of the Presidency or of the Army, because Croatia has been faced—from the very beginning, when democratic power was established—not just with rumors, but also with threats of armed intervention against democratic power. We are astonished that, after the agreement we reached on 25 January, whose purpose was supposed to calm the situation, because we agreed that the Army should lift the state of alert, i.e. abolish combat-readiness and return to its barracks, while we in Croatia should de-activate the reserve police force and accordingly create normal conditions for political talks, political agreement, or political denouement of the crisis."

Tudjman continued, "such an attitude of the Army after this meeting is linked not only with the film against Spegelj but also with the warrant for his arrest. Croatia has adopted a stand not to agree to the persecution of people who were executing the decisions of the Croatian Government on the legal arming of both active and reserve members of the legal police. Therefore the purpose of this Army attitude is the further destruction of the new-established democratic power and sovereignty of Croatia. This does not create grounds for further talks on a way out of the political crisis."

Continuing his comments, Tudjman said that "the president of the Federal Government could hardly get to speak, and there were very interesting duels, more interesting than the recent ones between Jovic and Markovic. He managed, however, to present some of his results."

Dr. Tudjman went on to say that it was "formally repeated that neither the SFRY Presidency nor the Army have any intention of jeopardizing the legitimacy and order of the Croatian Republic, but all in all it was insisted that the events should be investigated by the court and that those who violated the legal system, etc. should be prosecuted."

Tudjman stressed that in the end he said "that all those who have taken part in the debate will have to realize that they are not only dealing with representatives of the Republic of Croatia, but also with the Republic's Constitution and its people, who will know how to defend freedom and democracy. As long as they do not realize this, as long as they try to impose certain solutions by force, they may trigger off a catastrophe for all of us but, above all, for those who might cause this."

SFRY Presidency Vice President Stipe Mesic made it clear that today's entire debate was in fact dominated by these issues, which should have been resolved as the preliminary issues in the discussion on our shared coexistence in the first place.

In his words "the information that says that the aim of the new party, advocated by the Army, is the development of socialism and that capitalism will collapse, is written in language dating back to 1948 or 1949. By evoking this the Army make it obvious that the authorities in the northwestern part of the country do not suit them and that consequently the army should be involved in restoring the old system. We demanded that this issue be examined, that it should be made clear who was behind this information, whether it was the army or some part of the army administration. This was accepted, but it was nevertheless placed on the agenda of some future session. We demanded that it should be included in the agenda of the next session."

Equally, Mesic resumed, "President Markovic voiced his views on a minimum of functions that must be exercised by the state while the talks are under way. But even regarding this, it was said that it did not matter when this would be discussed. Obviously," Mesic concluded, "the only concern is how to disarm the Croatian police, although there was some reservation because it was said that this did not refer to the Croatian police but only to some formations of the Croatian Democratic Community [HDZ]. Let me put this simply, there is no such thing," Mesic said, and added that there were paramilitary organizations in Knin. These people of Knin handed their weapons back to those who had supplied them in the first place, so nothing has in fact happened there. This is in fact a charade taking place in Knin, which is now being paraded in the Serbian press; declaring that Knin's people have returned their weapons, the Serbian press is not even referring to Knin's people but rather to Serbs, while stating that the HDZ is still armed. What they did, though, was to return the weapons to those policemen who do not recognize the Croatian authorities. Those same people who supplied them with arms will probably do the same again at some point.

Stipe Mesic then said that they do not know and are wondering what kind of statement would come from the session. "We remain open to talks, but with the proviso that the sovereignty of Croatia, its functions, and its origins are not brought into question,."

Therefore, Mesic concluded, "if the ministers carried out a policy—and the minister of internal affairs and minister of national defense had to arm the police, who were unarmed—they carried out this task on the order of the government and there is no possibility of arresting these ministers. Clearly, this is a trick, so that the military police can make arrests. It means that it is no longer a question of the illegal procurement of weapons but of a military insurrection, which means that it takes on a different qualification of criminal act, to remove it from the jurisdiction of the Croatian judiciary."

Mesic said that he hopes that "the experts will show how authentic this film is, and to what extent it was set up, because the majority of the accusations are in fact based on this. And we have to say that those witnesses who appear in the film, are clearly just agents reporting to their bosses. Therefore, if anyone has formed armed services, which are illegal, then it is precisely these agents who were carrying out their task, which is being blamed on the legal Croatian Government. I hope that time will show that we are right, but I also hope that the talks will continue, but in an argued manner and to the point."

Our proposal, Mesic spelled out, was that "the Army should be excluded from further negotiations. According to this information from the political administration, however, it is clear that the Army is essentially a factor that imposes its strength and itself on future negotiation on Yugoslavia, and we must avoid this."

Tudjman also added that "it is interesting that two or three participants came out clearly with their hardline attitude in defense of the Army's right to manage, summon everyone etc., evoking the protection of the constitutional and legal order while forgetting what happened to the constitutional order when Kosovo's autonomy was annulled, and when the monetary system was violated etc."

Equally, Tudjman noted, "the Federal Government president's report made it clear that the Republic of Serbia has committed three times as many violations of federal legislation as the others. In the FEC's view, Croatia is responsible for six cases, Slovenia for six, and Serbia for 18; and as far as I could understand, the Federal Constitutional Court's preliminary report says that out of the laws they have examined so far, three should be withdrawn in Croatia, three in Slovenia, and six in Serbia. But there is no mention of this, nor is it

taken into account. Those who speak of such things and of protecting the constitutional order are in fact talking about the Army's right to protect such a constitutional order. So, here we go. I also said that they would have to understand the situation and the distribution of power in Yugoslavia and the world," Tudjman concluded. Mesic added that "those who want to impose solutions in Croatia by force can be blamed for the catastrophe that may ensue."

Leave Presidency Session

AU3101194191 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Vesna Knezevic report from Zagreb 31 January]

[Text] On their return to Zagreb, Croatian President Franjo Tudjman and SFRY Presidency Vice President Stipe Mesic stated half an hour ago that they did not know what the statement of the SFRY Presidency will contain, but that they were waiting for it with interest.

[Knezevic] In a brief statement for journalists, Tudjman said that he left the SFRY Presidency session together with Mesic for two reasons: first, because of the commitments that had been arranged earlier, and second, because he thought that considering the spirit in which today's conversation was conducted the discussion was useless.

The essence of the dispute lies in fact that no clarification was given as to whose stands were presented in the document of the Political Department of the Federal Secretariat for National Defense, whether they were issued only by the Army leadership or the SFRY Presidency as well. This question was also raised at the session by Slovene President Kucan.

Stipe Mesic added that the Presidency agreed to discuss this matter but on some other occasion. Croatia proposed that the Army be excluded from political negotiations on the future of Yugoslavia. The two Croatian officials said, with the latest document from its political department the Army has proved again that it has firm intentions to remain a political factor that forcefully exerts its power.

The authorities used a trick to issue the warrant for the detention of Minister Spegelj in the Zagreb Military Court, Mesic said. The Army changed its original stand on the acquisition of arms and turned it into an armed struggle so it could resort to the federal law to the detriment of the republican law.

Both Franjo Tudjman and Stipe Mesic confirmed that the Croatian leadership will back Spegelj and other ministers of the Croatian Government because they acted according to an order to legally acquire arms for the legal republican police.

As regards the disarmament of the citizens of Knin according to the SFRY Presidency's order of 9 January, Mesic said that the citizens of Knin returned arms to those policemen who gave them the arms in the first place, and who do not recognize the authority of the Croatian Government anyhow.

Until the SFRY Presidency understands that it cannot forcefully impose its views to Croatia, there is a possibility that it may cause a catastrophe, Tudjman cited his own statement from the meeting in Belgrade.

Croatian Delegation Quits Presidency Meeting

LD3101194191 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1900 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] The Croatian delegation headed by President Franjo Tudjman returned from Belgrade this evening. At the expanded session of the SFRY Presidency, in which they took part, further steps were expected to resolve the political situation in Yugoslavia. As stated at a news conference at Zagreb Airport on their return from Belgrade, however, a final agreement is still a long way off. The pressures and interference of the JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] in the work and life of the Republic of Croatia are not ceasing; on the contrary they are increasing, an example being the arrest order for Croatian Defense Minsiter Martin Spegelj. Under such conditions, President Tudjman said, there is no point in talks, and this was the reason for the departure of the Croatian delegation from the session before its conclusion. We also await with interest what kind of statement will come from Belgrade at the conclusion of the SFRY Presidency session, Tudjman stated.

Manolic: No Arrest, Interrogations for Spegelj

LD3101221391 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2116 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Zagreb, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—"Spegelj will be Neither Interrogated nor Arrested" is the title of a 'VJESNIK' interview with Croatian Government President Josip Manolic, in which Manolic says: "Public order, peace and security, in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the civilized world, are protected and ensured by internal affairs' services, and Croatia will absolutely adhere to these rules. The recent behavior of the Yugoslav People's Army clearly shows that it is not making any efforts to calm the situation. On the contrary, it is taking steps that are continuing to disturb people and create tension."

Asked how the Croatian government will react to the demand of the Zagreb military court that Minister Spegelj be handed over to the investigating judge, Prime Minister Manolic said: "We shall not allow any interrogations let alone arrests, on the part of the military police or repressive Army services."

Croatia's Spegelj, Boljkovac Visit Slovenia

LD3101162191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1329 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Ljubljana, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—In a statement issued today, the Slovene Secretariat for National

Defense announced that the Croatian ministers for internal affairs and national defense, Josip Boljkovac and Martin Spegelj, and their aides were [as received] on an official visit to Slovenia. Together with Igor Bavcar, Slovene secretary for internal affairs, and Jelko Kacin, the Slovene deputy secretary for national defense, they completed their assessments of the current situation, the statement adds.

Customs Office Investigated for Arms Smuggling

LD3101190591 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1806 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Belgrade, January 31 (TANJUG)—A federal customs service official told journalists today an investigation had been instigated on the guns illegally purchased in Hungary to arm Croatian police.

Customs service crime prevention chief Pero Rajic said there was "no information" on illegal arms imports for the Republic of Slovenia but that the matter was being investigated with other competent bodies.

Part of the Yugoslav press recently reported Slovenia had illegally imported guns through Italy.

Rajic confirmed that "the import of arms for the Croatian Internal Affairs Ministry had not been recorded with customs" and that "duties had not been paid on a single rifle or pistol intended for that purpose."

Yugoslavia's defence secretariat disclosed that it had evidence that showed that guns had been smuggled into Croatia from Hungary in trucks on several occassions.

The federal customs service was informed by the state security service and warned its outposts along the border with Hungary in October last year to prepare for trucks filled with smuggled weapons.

Rajic said today the entry of the first two trucks which the federal defence secretariat said arrived at a border crossing from Hungary were not registered.

He said two trucks were registered on October 20 which the customs office in Koprivnica said were empty. The crossing of the five other trucks was not registered.

Rajic said an investigation was underway to establish whether those two trucks really were empty and "what happened to the other trucks."

He could not confirm possible involvement of some customs officers [words indistinct] said that is under investigation.

Belgrade TV aired a half-hour tape made by the armed forces information service which showed facsimiles of documents and claimed Croatia had bought several thousand Kalashnikov assault rifles for its troops in Hungary.

The tape said Hungarian authorities did not react to warnings from Yugoslavia.

The secretly filmed material shows Croatia's republican Defence Minister Martin Spegeljl talking about how the arms were bought in Hungary and how he had been to that country illegally for the purchase.

Rajic told today's press conference that Croatia's Internal Affairs Ministry had received a shipment of 5,000 Zbrojovka pistols from Czechoslovakia which did not have import permits.

Those pistols are in the possession of that Croatian ministry because Rajicl explained "even when it impounds weapons from citizens the customs service is obliged to hand them over to the competent internal affairs ministry."

Croat Assembly Position Possible Intervention

AU0102111791 Zagreb VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 26 Jan 91 p 1

[HINA report on the stands endorsed by the Assembly of the Republic of Croatia in Zagreb on 25 January: "Assembly Stands"]

[Text] The Croatian Assembly endorsed the following stands laid out in a proposal by Croatian President Dr. Franjo Tudjman:

We will consider any act of legal or physical violence, which would be against the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, as a threat to the constitutional order of Croatia defined in Article 140 and in line with Article 135 of the Constitution.

That is to say, according to the Constitution of the sovereign and democratic Republic of Croatia, the introduction of a state of emergency is in its jurisdiction, so any repressive action will be considered an act of occupation.

I am again calling on the military forces and citizens in Croatia to maintain their composure and calm and not succumb to provocations. Our people can have full confidence in their government and can calmly await further decisions by the government of the Republic of Croatia.

The government of the Republic of Croatia can guarantee the full safety and tranquility of all citizens and people who live on the territory of Croatia, as well as officers and soldiers of the Yugoslav People's Army.

On behalf of the government of the Republic of Croatia, I would like, before this high chamber, to address the international democratic public, our neighboring and all other friendly countries—to direct attention to the danger threatening democratic, human, and national rights in Croatia—with the request that they use all democratic and diplomatic means to support the preservation of the freedom and sovereignty of the Republic of Croatia if those are put in jeopardy.

From here I am also sending a call to all other peoples and nationalities in Yugoslavia to support the Croatian people in their endeavors for freedom. I am saying to the Serbian people and particularly the Serbs in Croatia that they are in no danger whatsoever from the Croatian people, that we want to live with the Serbian people in peaceful cohabitation, as neighbors, and that any military adventure fueled by hegemonistic or unitaristic aims would in the long term cause greater harm precisely to the Serbs in Croatia.

In line with everything that has been presented, I am calling on all Croats and citizens of Croatia, at home and abroad, to raise their voice in peaceful protest against the dangers and threats that have loomed over our homeland. Finally, I am expressing the hope and conviction that we will, despite everything, despite all the disagreements and even open conflicts, nevertheless find in talks and negotiations ways out of the present state-political crisis in a "new historic agreement" on the democratic settlement of all problems in a union of sovereign republics on the territory of present day SFRY or on good- neighborliness within the framework of the European Community.

Croatian Factory Strike Includes 3,000 Workers

LD3101141291 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1330 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Borovo, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—This morning, more than 1,000 workers of the Rubber Shoe Division of the Borovo enterprise joined in a strike by 2,000 workers of Borovo Rubber Division which started on 28 January. Their demands are identical: unpaid monthly salaries from last year and the minimum January wage must be paid. The workers are still mainly on factory floors, where they will stay until their demands are met. They are also waiting to hear the outcome of today's talks between Borovo management and the Croatian government.

Serbia's Milosevic Views State Presidency Talks

LD0102061191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0426 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Belgrade, Feb 1 (TANJUG)—Serbia upholds the decision of the Yugoslav State Presidency on the disarmament of all illegally armed groups in the country, which is the first prerequisite for a positive solution of the present crisis, President of the Republic of Serbia Slobodan Milosevic stated for today's issue of Belgrade's daily POLITIKA.

A reporter of POLITIKA last night approached Milosevic after the closing of a special session of the Yugoslav State Presidency for a statement on the talks of the Serbian delegation with the delegations of other republics on the organization of Yugoslavia and its political future which took place over the past ten days. This was also to be the topic of the Presidency's session but it was postponed until next week, for Febuary 8.

The talks of the republican delegations in Belgrade, Milosevic said, strengthened the conviction that there are both reasons and necessary conditions for preserving Yugoslavia as a state union of Yugoslav peoples which will guarantee equal rights to all citizens and have its organs and functions—a single Army and foreign policy, including a single market.

Events have shown, as well as the talks of the republican representatives, that—in order to avert violence, anarchy or the solving of the crisis outside institutions—reaching agreement should proceed by taking into consideration the equality and interests of the peoples and republics in Yugoslavia within legal Yugoslav institutions, Milosevic said.

Milosevic said that Serbia's stand is that the basic ground for resolving the Yugoslav crisis is the right of peoples to self-determination. In line with this, Serbia will take into consideration the right and interests of all of Yugoslavia's peoples to decide on their future. The same principles should be applied to the interest of the Serbian people to live in a single state, Milosevic stated.

The recent events in the country, Milosevic stressed, best illustrate Serbia's decisiveness not, under any circumstances, to allow the Serbian people to be forced, against their wish, to live in several sovereign states.

He assessed that the Yugoslav State Presidency, in light of the recent events in the country, now has the greatest responsibility. It does not have the right to permit the further postponement of the resolution of the crisis while the political and economic difficulties increase each day.

At the same time Milosevic warned that Yugoslavia was the only country in Europe where a restoration of Fascist forces and genocide was being manifested.

For this reason Serbia upholds the Yugoslav State Presidency on disarmament and the measures which, on the basis of the Constitution and law, the Yugoslav People's Army was implementing, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic told POLITIKA.

Serbia Favors Integrated Federal Country

LD3102195391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1858 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Paris, Jan 31 (TANJUG) - Serbian Foreign Secretary Aleksandar Prlja said here today that Serbia favours an integrated Yugoslavia, but only in a federal form.

Prlja said that Serbia might review its stand on remaining in Yugoslavia if the country is no longer organized as a federation.

Serbia is not initiating a question of a possible secession from Yugoslavia, but it is in favour of an integrated state only if it implies common commodity, labour and capital markets, a common tax system and monetary policy, and common foreign relations, Prlja said.

Slovenia and Croatia, the country's two most developed republics which are indicating a desire to secede from Yugoslavia, do not, however, accept this, as it would imperil their several-decades-old advantageous positions in these areas, Prlja said in a conversation with diplomatic editors of French newspapers accredited at the French Foreign Ministry.

Refusing claims voiced in the French media about Serbia's dominant position in Yugoslavia's military and political leaderships, Prlja recalled that the late president Josip Broz Tito, a Croat, was commander-in-chief of the armed forces for over 40 years, and that Croats and Slovenes—Edvard Kardelj, Vladimir Bakaric and Stane Dolanc—played leading roles in the country's political life.

Serbian Deputies Boycott Croatian Assembly

LD3101161191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1312 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Zagreb, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—Eleven deputies of Serbian nationality in the Croatian Assembly today announced in a public statement—released in the town of Vrgin Most—that "they will stop taking part in the work of the Croatian Assembly."

The statement goes on to say that "the situation is on the brink of bloodshed as a result of national-chauvinistic actions by the party in power, that is, its leadership." The group of deputies demands "urgent and unconditional disarming of all unlawful formations, demobilizing reserve police units, establishing political and criminal responsibility of participants in illegal arming aimed at a showdown with the Yugoslav People's Army [JNA] and the Serbian people, as well as the urgent end of the unscrupulous anti-Serbian campaign."

This we regard as a minimum for the Croatian Assembly "to be able to function as a democratic legislature," the statement emphasizes. Finally, they condition their participation in the work of the Assembly with a debate about the constitutional and legal status of Serbs in Croatia.

The following deputies signed the statement for the public: Marko Atlagic, Dusan Badza, Milorad Bekic, Stevan Cupac, Petar Dzodan, Sava Grabundzija, Ilija Knezevic, Branka Kupresanin, Veljko Pjevac, Milivoj Vojnic, and Jovan Vukobrat. They were all elected as Assembly deputies from lists of the former left-wing bloc.

According to incomplete data, among deputies of the former left-wing bloc, 24 deputies of Serbian nationality were elected in last year's multiparty elections.

Krajina Trade Union Confederation Established

LD3101155991 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1237 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Summary] Knin, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—By a decision of the presidium of the municipal trade unions of Benkovac, Donji Lapac, Knin, Gracac, Obrovac, and Titova Korenica, the Confederation of Krajina Trade Unions has been set up today. Its program declaration states the Knin-based Confederation is an independent workers' organization open for cooperation with all workers' organizations with similar programs. A member of the Serbian Trade Union Confederation Presidium, Mico Vujasinovic, attended the meeting.

Slovenia's Kucan on State Presidency Session

LD0102100991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0020 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Ljubljana, Jan 31 (TANJUG)—President of the Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia Milan Kucan this evening said that agreement was reached at the expanded Yugoslav State Presidency session (held on Thursday) on the basic principle that the republics remain the ones to discuss the future organization of Yugoslavia.

Such an agreement, as Kucan said upon his return from Belgrade, was necessary as a result of a document of the Federal Defence Secretariat's Political Department (published in the press) which spoke about the situation in the world and in Yugoslavia and the tasks of the Yugoslav People's Army.

In the document, Kucan went on to explain the Yugoslav People's Army urged in favor of a single social order and model of Yugoslavia, and very firmly at that, which relies upon a political organization.

According to Kucan, an agreement was reached for the Supreme Command (the State Presidency) to talk with the Army's top leadership about the document.

The position of the Army, Kucan said, should be reviewed in conditions where two legal systems exist—a legal system within the Yugoslav constitution and constitutional-legal systems which are created in the republics. The Army invokes a federal legal system which the republics do not acknowledge, and so no one has an easy job of it, Kucan said.

Slovene Council Urges Sovereignty Threat Probe

LD0102104291 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2235 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Text] Ljubljana, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—In light of the Slovene republic's hope to implement the outcome of the plebiscite on sovereignty and independence, the Security Information Service should professionally and systematically collect and analyze data indicating attempts to foil the sovereign decision of the Slovene people. This is stressed in this evening's statement from a session of the Slovene Presidency's Council for protecting the constitutional order. The Council endorsed the stance that, in the current exarcerbated security and political situation, all activities of the Security Information Service aimed at collecting data and information that could indicate attempts to use force in Slovenia or to foil the international affirmation of Slovenia should be supported.

Bosnian President Cited on Federation Issue

LD0102114791 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0932 GMT 1 Feb 91

[Text] Sarajevo, 1 Feb (TANJUG)—Asked whether the second SFRY Presidency session displayed any more or less of the discussed issues than the 10 January SFRY Presidency session, which discussed the future order of Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Hercegovina President Alija Izetbegovic said in a statement for OSLOBODJENJE of Sarajevo that certain steps forward were made, but that the positions of some delegations are still very far apart and that he sees "no great willingness to bridge differences." Regarding this, Izetbegovic states that the representatives of Bosnia-Hercegovina tried to be, as far as possible, constructive. He stressed that "above all, because we have no confrontations or negative history of relations with the federation—as you know, Bosnia-Hercegovina is not indebted to the federation, it imposed no obstacles and did not take part in any boycott whatsoever. Regarding the country's future order, Bosnia-Hercegovina did not adopt a rigid stand on the issue of federation or confederation." Izetbegovic expressed the conviction that Bosnia-Hercegovina will continue to play the role of a catalyst in negotiations regarding the country's new political order.

Asked whether the documentary of Ministers Spegelj and Boljkovac made the talks about the political future of Yugoslavia more or less easy, the president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency said, among other things:

"Most likely—although it would be better to say certainly—it made them more difficult, because it spoiled the atmosphere. It certainly played a negative role, enlarged the crisis of trust between the Yugoslav republics and nation. True, following the last SFRY Presidency session, at which—let me put it this way—a sort of detente was reached, the situation has somewhat improved. The consequences of that film [documentary on arming of HDZ members and Croatian special police force], however, are still felt," Izetbegovic concluded in his statement for OSLOBODJENJE.

Bosnia-Hercegovina SDS Holds News Conference

LD3101173191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1323 GMT 31 Jan 91

[Excerpt] Sarajevo, 31 Jan (TANJUG)—The Serbian Democratic Party [Srpska Demokratska Stranka—SDS] of Bosnia-Hercegovina says that it is irresponsible whereby not a single Bosnia-Hercegovina official has reacted to Tudjman's claim that the republic's young democracy is threatened by the Yugoslav People's Army. It is all the more disturbing in view of the fact that help is even being asked from (President) Bush. The fact that issues of such importance are being ignored begs the question whether representatives or the presidents of the political parties, or of the government asked for help, SDS President Radovan Karadzic said at a news conference today. During the news conference, satisfaction was expressed with legislative activity in Bosnia-Hercegovina. Referring to the talks about Yugoslavia's future, Karadzic said that Bosnia-Hercegovina shares a high degree of agreement with all the other republics, except Croatia. According to him, Croatia continues to adhere to its firm confederal concept and, as a result, the Bosnia-Hercegovina delegation could not do much about the outcome of the talks. [passage omitted]